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Hongkong as it is, Singapore, and we might say of the East. A few firms in this Colony have reduced their prices, but for the vast majority of articles people are paying exactly the same number of cents or dollars as they did when the dollar was at one shilling and eightpence. The worst of it is that the goods, certainly most of the imported goods in Hongkong at the present time, were purchased when the dollar was cheap, so that people here are really paying from 15 to 30 per cent. more for the goods to-day than they were six months ago. Yet no merchant ever failed to raise his prices when the dollar fell in value. It would not be at all surprising, if the dollar fell to one shilling and eightpence next week to learn that on account of the reduced exchange rate at which the dollar was quoted, merchants found it necessary to increase their prices, and, of course, we all know that once a 15 or 20 per cent. rise is mutually sanctioned that is the price at which the article will be sold for the future, no matter if the dollar rose to half a sovereign. While those who are being paid in sterling undoubtedly feel the effects of the rate now prevailing, it is equally true that those who have always been paid in silver are reaping no advantage. House rents are the same as before, there has been no fall in the price of provisions, the cost of wines and liquors, except in rare cases, is just what it was twelve months ago, and in fact nobody except the remitter and those who gamble in the money market stands to gain anything by the increasing value of the dollar. According to the *Eastern Daily Mail*, "the rate of exchange" is higher than it has been for the last ten years, during which period home prices for imported goods have practically been stationary. Yet we are paying at least 25 per cent. more for imported goods sold by retailers than we did ten years ago. House rent, servants' wages, and, in fact, everything that a European requires have also greatly increased in price during the last few years, whereas salaries have remained at a standstill with the silverites and have materially diminished in the case of the goldites. It would appear that the only people in the Colony who are making any profit out of the present unsatisfactory state of things are the banks, retailers and hotel keepers, and the latter, not content with a twenty-per-cent. increased profit on their drinks, must need add insult to injury by measuring out their refreshments with mathematical exactitude by means of a patent invention which makes one *shengka* into two. That would seem to be the most unkind cut of all, first to rob a man by charging a price which brings four or five hundred per cent. profit, and then to steal the article he has paid for outrageously from his grasp. It would not be quite so bad if one understood that though he was suffering, at least his friend who endured the evils of a fluctuating dollar not so very long ago was gaining, but that is not at all evident. The vast majority of people are *employees* and that is the very class which is hardest hit by this daily rise in the dollar. The uncertainty what a man may receive at the end of the month may have one good effect in inducing the thriftest to look oftener at the white metal before parting with it, which will have beneficial effects on the community at large. The day that the dollar is based on a fixed standard will be the brightest for all who are not speculating in the value of silver.

REGISTRATION OF PARTNERS.

(4th December.)
Our readers will remember that not long since we printed a special telegram from our Singapore correspondent to the effect that the Chinese commercial community in Penang were opposing the passage of the Registration of Firms Bill that had been read a first time at a meeting of the Legislative Council at Singapore. As originally arranged the second reading was to have been moved at the meeting on the 24th ult., but it was not brought forward. This was in all probability due to the absence of the Penang members, who are desirous of taking part in the debate before the Bill reaches the committee stage. The measure brought forward by Mr. Collyer, on November 2nd, is a great advance on the Bill laid before the Legislature in 1888, which failed to become law owing to the inconclusive and unsatisfactory manner in which it was drawn up. That Bill was condemned because it did not go far enough; its scope was so narrowed as to make the Bill practically ineffective. In the first Bill the registration of partnerships was to be purely voluntary whereas in the present Bill registration is compulsory. During the past two years there has been heard in Singapore as in Hongkong a great deal about the stagnation of trade, the tightness in the money market, the failures in the native bazaar, and the gloomy prognostications as to the prospects of trade generally in the near future. The reasons for the depression in commercial and financial circles are not far to seek. The *Eastern Daily Mail*, which devotes a lucid leading article on the subject, finds that the undeniable set back given to business throughout the East, consequent upon the recent Russo-Japanese War, the results of over-trading generally during the year immediately preceding the outbreak of hostilities, and the land boom reaction have all contributed in some form or another to the disasters that have befallen trade in Singapore. Then again, it must not be forgotten that the alarming fluctuations in exchange have also had a deterrent effect upon Far Eastern trade and, lastly, credit generally has suffered, one reason among others being the non-registration of partnerships. It is true in the Straits as in this Colony that

European and American manufacturers and merchants have been, and are compelled to limit their business because of the imposing conditions under which they are forced to trade, and by reason of the uncertainty as to whether they are trading with proprietors or partners in substantial business "chops" or with "men of straw." Our Southern contemporary asserts that, when partnerships are duly registered, a filip will be given to trade which can hardly be measured; the results of which can only react to the Colony's advantage, and should outweigh the petty opposition that exists against the Bill led by a small minority of self-seeking merchants who are afraid of a little wholesome outside competition which the new order of things will undoubtedly bring about. The Bill now before the Legislative Council at Singapore, as readers of the *Hongkong Telegraph* will have gathered from the resumé appearing in these columns some time since, is one which, if passed, will largely contribute to the increase of trade by removing a great obstacle, besides affording better protection to the European merchant, both in the East and on the other side of the world. As is pertinently pointed out in the journal we quote, in the Straits as well as in Hongkong, we require no restrictions to our trade; we welcome all efforts put forward tending to foster our manufactures and industries, all conscientious endeavour made for the purpose of increasing our trading facilities and improving our financial credit. The registration of partnerships will do much towards that desideratum. It is rumoured that a few prominent merchants and Chinese dealers in the Straits have expressed opinions against the new Bill, but it should be pointed out again that one of the clauses explicitly states that the Bill will only be compulsory with firms started in the future; what their objections to that clause may be it is difficult to surmise. It is further understood that the Chinese Advisory Board are also against the new Bill, and it will be very interesting to hear the arguments that can be adduced by the Chinese members when the Bill comes under discussion. The late official assignee in Singapore, time after time, admitted that in the present state of the law he could accomplish little or nothing in the discovery of mythical partners in the numerous "chops" that came within his jurisdiction in the bankruptcy Court. In Hongkong have been heard time and again. It has ever been a difficult matter to ascertain who is, or who is not, a partner in a native "hong." Merchants in the sister Colony, in the opinion of our contemporary, should hail the new Bill with unqualified delight; it will not eradicate all the disabilities under which business is conducted, but it will alleviate in no small degree the difficulties in obtaining information which is often so necessary. It is now apparent that an attempt has been made to grapple with the many difficulties in a thorough manner. The *Eastern Mail* accords the new Bill all support, confidently anticipating the enactment being placed upon the Statute Book in the near future to the lasting benefit of commercial interests generally throughout the Straits Settlements. It is a sound view having many staunch supporters in our own midst.

APPROACHING DEMISE OF RUSSIAN AUTOCRACY.

(5th December.)
In a recent article on Russia's peril, following on the procrastinating policy of her Government in effecting political reforms on the lines demanded by the long-suffering people, a contemporary remarked that Russia is to-day more sorely vexed than she ever has been by industrial disorders and strikes. The *S. P. Chronicle* succinctly recapitulates the petition to the Tsar and his reply. When the Mayors and Presidents of the Zemstvos petitioned His Majesty several months ago to call a national assembly which should have a voice in the management of the affairs of the Government, he dismissed the deputation with fair promises. But when the imperial receipt was finally issued, after a long delay, providing for the meeting of a national assembly, its powers were so circumscribed that it was made merely an advisory body, at best, restricted in its discussions and recommendations to matters of minor importance. The imperial ukase prohibits the discussion of the more vital questions and principles of government. The Duma, or national assembly, is not endowed with any legislative functions. The Tsar retains autocratic authority. The assembly will not, in fact, be a representative body, as all of the industrial classes and 80 per cent. of the professional men in the empire are excluded from the right of suffrage in the election of its members. It has been stated that the Zemstvos, or Councils for political self-government, are widely regarded by Russian reformers as the bases on which might be built the fabric of social and political liberty. From 1867, when the Tsar Alexander II. made considerable alterations in the law relating to local government, down to 1879, when municipal self-government was conceded, hopes ran high; but generally the power of the ruling classes in the Zemstvos has increased; the peasants have been deprived of the right of electing their representatives, who are now nominated by the Government of the provinces. The decisions of the Zemstvos are now made subject to the approval of the Government. In every case, whether these decisions are in accordance with the law or not, similar limitations also weigh heavily upon other efforts of local self-government. The Russian people since the publication of the

Tsar's ukase have had many weeks in which to study the composition, and powers of the coming assembly, and they find that, "having asked for bread they have been given a stone," that the organization will not represent the people and that they do not get through it a voice in the affairs of the Government. In the words of the *American Journal*, "the popular patience with the Tsar and his advisers seems now to have been exhausted, and the agitation for political reforms and representative government has taken a more aggressive form than it ever did before, without instituting an armed rebellion." The people are showing their power by paralyzing the internal commerce and industries of the empire, through refusing to operate the railways, and are demanding universal suffrage and other political concessions as their only terms of reconciliation with the Government. The appointment of Count Witte as Premier and the latter's promises to revise the electorate for the national assembly and broaden the latter's powers are in the form of an imperial "eleventh-hour repentance." It looks as if these partial concessions were made too late, and that the people will not stop short at anything now save the establishment of a constitutional government in the fullest meaning. Russian autocracy is approaching its demise.

CIVIL SERVICE SALARIES.

(6th December.)
Once again we return to that all-important question which is exercising the minds of the householders and *employers* in Hongkong, the disastrous effect which the increased value of silver has on the spending power of the dollar—an effect experienced and realised not only by those who lament that they are paid on a sterling basis but also by those who receive their wages or salaries on the silver standard. Frequently it is difficult to make the recipients of sterling salaries understand that they are not the sole sufferers when the dollar rises. They are so intent on the diminishing number of dollars paid to them monthly that they are blind to the tragedy of those who, being paid small wages, are compelled to follow the fluctuations of the silver market without a voice in the matter, and to watch the increasing cost of house-rents, food and all the necessities of life without having any corresponding increase in their meagre incomes, to meet the greater outlay required. The case of the small officials in the public service of the Colony is particularly hard and deserves the championship of all who appreciate the valuable work they contribute to the Colony's service. It is not the question of remittances which affect them. Having been born in the Colony, or having established all their interests here, they are not affected by the actual exchange with gold countries; but they are grievously affected by the increased and apparently increasing cost of living due partly to local conditions and mainly to the rapacity of the minor merchants with whom they deal. Their every penny is drained from them as the result of the high prices prevailing for every article of produce, and their house-rent which, we take it, is the principal item in their expenditure, shows no sign of abatement. This question of the salaries paid to the junior officials in the public service is no new affair. It has been mooted time and again, and not only in Hongkong but also in Ceylon, where the Government has been in correspondence with the Secretary of State on the subject for over two years. As the result of those communications the Government of Ceylon have now submitted certain recommendations to the Legislative Council, which are highly important and may be taken as a guide for Hongkong. Both those who are paid on a sterling basis and those who are on a scale formed on the currency of the country are considered in the scheme of reforms which have been drafted by the Lieutenant-Governor of Ceylon. The recommendations therein set forth substantially bear out the conditions which we have consistently urged in our columns for the amelioration of the condition of the clerical service in Hongkong. The proposals laid before the Legislative Council of Ceylon relate practically to all classes of public servants in that Colony, and if carried out will probably entail an additional expenditure of not less than Rs. 500,000 per annum. For the purpose of dealing with this matter, His Excellency remarked, "The colonial service had been divided into three great classes—the class of officers who are ordinarily recruited in Europe; the class of officers, other than and, speaking generally, above the rank of clerks, who are ordinarily recruited in the Colony; and the clerical service in all its branches and ramifications. All these classes have suffered from the greatly enhanced cost of living; the first class has suffered from that cause, but also and more especially from the fall, since the scales of salaries was fixed in 1870, or earlier, in the exchange value of the rupee for purposes of remittance to Europe." It is therefore proposed to fix the salaries of the first class in sterling, but that it is not of so much importance to Hongkong because the rupee has a standard gold value, which fluctuates scarcely at all. The second class will be paid in the currency of the country, if this measure is passed. His Excellency remarks of them—"They have undoubtedly suffered by the increase of prices, and they feel the pinch generated by the higher class of living which the much augmented property of the Colony has generally induced." That is mild and moderate language from the point of view of the sufferers, and it hardly expresses the real hardships which they have endured in consequence of the high prices in vogue. Few out-

side that circle can tell the manoeuvres and shifts to which that class has been put in order to make their little spin out and get both ends to meet. They do it, but at what a sacrifice to themselves and their families! With regard to the third class, those in the clerical service of the Ceylon Government Departments, they are also described as suffering by the increase in the cost of living. A scheme of improvement is being arranged on their behalf also. The great point is that the Government of the Colony to which we have referred recognise the real hardship of the middle-class of public servants owing to the higher standard of living—and more especially owing to the higher cost of every article of necessity. In Ceylon it is proposed to increase the number of the better paid and to diminish proportionately the number of the worse paid appointments in the various branches of the service mentioned. "The effect," says the *Lieut. Governor* in presenting the scheme, "will be to accelerate promotion, and so it is expected to improve the general efficiency of this branch—(that is to say, the second class generally recruited from the Colony)—of the public service. The initial cost is not very considerable, but gradually there will be added to the salaries of this body of deserving public servants a sum estimated at Rs. 155,500." One of the most gratifying features of the report on the subject lies in the fact that the Secretary of State expressly intimates his desire that this or some similar measure should be passed without delay, in view of the delays that have occurred in the consideration of this matter. The question is certainly one which does not admit of further delay. It is quite as urgent in Hongkong as in Ceylon. How some of the class which is spoken of as No. 2 manage to maintain themselves respectably, live in comparative decency with rents at the top notch, and educate their children is a mystery to every thinking man. It argues sleepless nights and a daily awakening to unremunerative toil which, while it may be chastening, is a distinct reflection on the Government. Life is hardly worth living at the price. None of the family can afford to get ill; few of them can afford the smallest luxury and, hard pushed as they are, they see even their humble cents flying away quicker every day. Just for the present there is an inclination, which cannot be too highly commended, on the part of a very few of the larger firms to reduce their prices. But that does not benefit the great majority of people of whom we are speaking. Does any one suppose that they deal with the great emporiums? They are more likely to patronise the small shops, whose prices are not likely to fall yet awhile. So comes to this, that we have on the one hand the sterling paid *employers* complaining that he is suffering through the rise in silver and the middle-class man, who is paid in the local currency, benefiting in not the very slightest degree. The former, however, had all the advantages when the dollar stood at a minimum; the latter is always the sufferer. Rise or fall, he is the victim, and it must be a poor spirit which cannot sympathise with him. We hold no brief for this long-suffering individual to urge this cause in public; but in justice to that section of the community to which he belongs—the section which, apparently, receives the least sympathy from those in authority—we feel that too much cannot be said on their behalf, and it will be our endeavour to press upon public opinion, in, as well as out of, season, the claims of these smaller officials—"this body of deserving public servants" as the Ceylon *Lieut. Governor* calls them—for consideration at the hands of the Government of Hongkong.

THE REGISTRATION OF PARTNERSHIPS.

(7th December.)
The trend of commercial opinion in the Straits Settlements regarding the merits of the Registration of Partnerships Bill—which is an admitted necessity if business is to be transacted in a legitimate and above-board fashion—has been watched with the utmost interest in Hongkong, since a similar measure is desirable here also. The Bill was framed by the Government law officers, assisted by the advice of the official Assignee, and was thereafter submitted to the Chamber of Commerce of Singapore and Penang for consideration and report. Singapore merchants expressed themselves against the Bill, with only three dissentients who could probably be named. The Penang Chamber, despite a long letter from the Singapore body urging them to co-operate with them against the Bill, resolved to support the measure, although it was of opinion "that certain provisions require considerable amendment," but it added that it thanked the Government for introducing the Bill. Until we see the reasons of the Singapore Chamber for rejecting the Bill, it is impossible to understand on what grounds they were induced to oppose it. It cannot be that they objected to the principle of the Bill. No doubt, a few of the older firms who have managed to subsist without a Registration of Partnerships Act were inclined to be suspicious of any legislation which proposed to deal with trade; but in our opinion the real objection to the Bill is the extraordinary timidity of merchants in the East. They say, on the one hand, that a law on the subject is essential to the proper conducting of business. Then when it is proposed to help them, to punish the fraudulent and to set up a measure which has worked satisfactorily in the United Kingdom and in India, they hastily draw back and begin to be frightened of their own

shadow. Official and legal opinion is quite clear that the Bill is necessary. The mercantile community hesitates to deny the fact, but finds fault with every measure submitted. As the official Assignee in Singapore has said—"A few of the older European firms consider that they will not be benefited by such a measure, but he pertinently asks, in what way will they be harmed?" What is there to hide, and how would the passing of such a Bill into law adversely affect trade? The same official who is an acute reasoner proceeds—"Again it has been suggested that, if partners have to register, rich Chinamen will cease to invest their capital in trade; but there is more than one way of having money in a firm and getting a share of the profits without becoming a partner, and a Chinaman is the last person to be deterred from investing money, in a concern that he expects to pay. Registration would show that such men were not partners; at present the firm gets credit on the strength of reports that such a man has money in the firm." Everything in the Bill tends to protect the honest firm and to sweep the swindling, fraternity out of existence. At present in the Straits Settlements as in Hongkong there are no means extant whereby it is possible to discover the real partners in a firm. Trusting to the outward and apparent respectability of a firm, a mercantile house rather than lose a good order would possibly, indeed, in all probability—accept the order of chance that not having been defrauded in the past they could take the risk on this occasion. Then when the crash comes it is found that the real members of the firm were men of straw while those who figured, either implicitly or by actual assertion, as the staunch, solid partners who could make good any debt, have, as much connection with the defunct concern as the man in the moon. That has happened repeatedly, and it will happen again. It will so long as there are no proper safeguards to protect the creditor firm against the rascals of the debtor. What possible objection can there be to the disclosing of the partners' names? No English firm of repute would object for a moment and it is certain that all the first-class Chinese firms would be ready to follow that example. For the firm which is carrying on a straightforward, honest business has nothing to fear. It is the shady creak that finds himself up against a dead wall. Naturally he screams impotently; he shouts and protests that he is ill-used, and he will get a certain amount of sympathy from those who are frightened at the unaccustomed condition of things. The members of the Singapore Chamber of Commerce represent firms of the highest standing, but on the principle that discretion is the better part of valour on this occasion they have run away from the question. They have hesitated to give the Registration Bill a trial and were lost. We are told by the official Assignee for the Straits Settlements that last year "the liabilities in estates of debtors against whom receiving orders and administration orders were made amounted to \$1,293,982.42 in Singapore and \$195,934.48 in Penang, according to the statements of affairs admitted by the debtors or made out from their books, or (where no statement of affairs would be made out) from the proofs lodged. The gross assets realized during the year on these estates amounted to \$160,330.35 in Singapore and \$38,196.84 in Penang, giving an average of 13.09 and 19.49 per cent. of the liabilities for the two Settlements respectively." In another part of his report the official Assignee states that in eighteen cases the debtors or all but the sleeping partners absconded or were not to be found. And he makes a choice remark about the non-absconders. He says: "The failures of those traders who did not abscond were almost all either distinctly fraudulent or characterised by trading with knowledge of insolvency." Yet in the face of that the merchants who have been defrauded prefer to be without a Registration of Partnerships Act. However, it is just possible that the Government setting the judgment of Penang against the hesitancy of Singapore may decide to give the provisions of the new Bill a trial in which case they will have the support of very many in the commercial world. At all events a trial is wanted, and why not in Singapore? Then it would be understood in a practical form whether this so-called interference with trade was justified or not, and if it were found to be unwarrantable nothing easier than to abrogate the Act. It would be a boon appreciated by merchants alike in the Straits Settlements (or a large proportion of them) and Hongkong to have the question tested by an actual trial.

THE ROYAL VISIT.

(8th December.)
Prince Arthur of Connaught, writes to Hongkong on the 9th of February, according to the despatch of the Secretary of State, and, after visiting Canton, will leave four or five days later for Japan, whence His Royal Highness will present the Garter to the Emperor of Japan. While this is an interesting event, that the noblest honour in Great Britain should be conferred on the head of our great Ally, it shrinks in local importance by the announcement that His Royal Highness is to stay in this Colony for several days. It must be remembered that all the public movements of a Prince of the Blood Royal are only sanctioned by the King, and His Majesty is not to be turned from his purpose by any precious pleas of time and tide. It is a pre-determined affair, and the fact that the King, in the person of his nephew, has decided to honour Hongkong is not lightly to be

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THE RISING DOLLAR.

(12th December.)
Singapore, like Hongkong, is greatly concerned about the rising dollar, and the cry which is heard here from those who are paid on a sterling basis is making itself heard in the southern port. The bitter complaint of Government servants that the purchasing power of their salaries is falling every day, while those who are paid in silver do not notice any appreciation, is quite as true of

KING EDWARD HOTEL.

THE NEW BUILDING.

ANOTHER FIRST-CLASS CARAVANSARY.

7th inst.

Hongkong, for some time past, has seen the erection of some magnificent buildings, which will compare with any in the world, and the latest is the King Edward Hotel. It is certain that the proprietors of the King Edward have no fears as to the decadence of Hongkong, for the best testimony of their belief in the Colony's future and their view that the steady growth of Hongkong as a business centre and the growing importance of the city as a place where visitors abound, is made evident in the great hotel which has just been erected and which will be formally opened in Christmas week. There are a few excellent hotels in Hongkong, chief among which is the hotel that takes its name after the Colony—the Hongkong Hotel—known by travellers all over the world. But as everybody knows there is plenty of room in Hongkong for another first-class hotel, and in that rank will stand the new King Edward, the embodiment of all that is latest in hotels. The present King Edward Hotel, which is an admirable apartment and quite a new attraction, has a very large number of the people of Victoria, has grown somewhat cramped of late years. It had no public bar, for instance, where soldiers and sailors might congregate, after the New Victoria had been converted into a bank, and it was a matter of deep disappointment to the proprietors that they could not meet the wishes of all their patrons. Then again, when the tourist season was at its height, when the hotel was crowded with guests, the proprietors had to turn away because every room was engaged. For these and other reasons it was decided to build a new hotel, which should equal the best existing in Hongkong at the present time. It must be remembered that the proprietors are not by any means new at the business of hotel management. They have successfully "run" most, if not all, of the big hotels in the Colony. So, when it was finally determined to build another first-class "caravansary," they entered into the scheme with spirit, and the result is seen to-day in the beautiful structure at the corner of Ice House Street and Des Voeux Road. There are a few fine buildings in the East, but not many finer than that which we are now describing. And whatever has been proved to suit a hotel is to be found in the interior of the King Edward.

THE PRESENT BUILDING.

It should be stated that although the proprietors have entered their new premises, they have not discarded the old building, except in so far as the front portion facing Des Voeux Road is concerned. What is at present known as the billiard room, the Hongkong residents' bar and the office will be converted into offices for the Taiwan Bank. The remainder of the building will be retained as part of the King Edward Hotel, but it will only be in the nature of an annex, and a variety of alterations will be made. The present dining-room becomes the public bar, where all sundry may congregate. Those who know the old proprietors of this apartment will readily understand that it will make an ideal public bar. The entrance will be from Ice House Street, a new door being built in the centre of the Ice House Street facade. The bedrooms above will remain as before, but certain improvements will probably be made in their appointments, although so far they have proved quite satisfactory.

THE NEW STRUCTURE.

Turning to the new structure, it is difficult to define the character of the design. It follows, but the main point is that the first and foremost object of the design has been to create a spacious, comfortable and up-to-date hotel, without forgetting to give it that ornate appearance which belongs to the style of building in the immediate vicinity. They have succeeded so well that he must be an extremely short-sighted individual or absent-minded beggar who fails to perceive in the rejuvenated King Edward a notable architectural feature in Hongkong.

As one enters from the Des Voeux Road side, there is the billiard room and a resident bar—a roomy, airy and altogether splendid apartment, which will contain three billiard tables, settees and so forth, besides the bar. It is lighted by half a dozen great windows reaching almost from the floor to the ceiling, while at night it will be illuminated by a flood of electric light. There are five electric fans of the latest pattern. The bar counter and fire-place are of a decorative appearance. The wood-work of the Hotel throughout is of oak, both polished and otherwise, and taken altogether this first glimpse at the interior fittings gives some idea of the character of the Hotel as a whole. The ceiling is worked out in a chaste pattern. Leading out of the bar and billiard room, are the lavatories which are constructed in first-class style and fitted with the latest devices in sanitary arrangements.

THE MAIN ENTRANCE.

The main entrance for visitors to the Hotel is at the corner of Ice House Street and Des Voeux Road. Here is the office, a wide and spacious area which has the appearance of a large waiting-room, being fitted with lounges, tables covered with magazines and newspapers. There is a sufficiency of electric lights, and electric fan. There is also a reading room, where the visitor may obtain whatever refreshments he may desire, and leading from it is the public telephone chamber which will be at the service of all comers, a condition of things which might well be observed elsewhere. The proprietors' office adjoins all the above, and is replete with fancy leaded glass panels which lend an air of cheerfulness to the scene and attract attention to the apartments beyond.

THE GUESTS' BAR.

Facing the main entrance there will be a couple of statues holding beautiful electric lamps. Proceeding upstairs, there will be found on the very first landing the guests' bar, or rather a bar which is placed there for the convenience of diners. It is a very cosy apartment, just the very place in which to meet a friend who is staying in the hotel and to hold a friendly chat. It is elaborately decorated and has all the rooms, and it will be largely patronized, there can be no doubt, when the Hotel is opened.

THE DINING ROOM.

The great feature of the King Edward is the dining room. It is of immense size and so arranged that when a large number of diners are present, then half the floor may be shut off either by a screen or by sliding doors. In the event of the whole floor being required either by diners or by dancers the screens can be thrown aside, and we have immediately a couple of halls which do not seem to compare unfavourably in point of extent with the combined St. George's and St. Andrew's Halls. There are no hanging lights here, the illumination is in the ceiling, or in the top part of the pillars. There are several ornamental devices into which ruby and white diamond lamps are set, which should throw a soft and pleasant light on the diners or dancers. In the event of the smaller of the combined rooms being required for a private

party, then the entrance is by another doorway, so that there need be no communication with the regular guests or diners. The pantry and side rooms adjoin the main dining-hall, so that the waiters have everything at hand. When the various items on the menu are brought from the kitchen, they will be placed on a long table with gas-heating attachments, so that the food may be brought in hot and delicious, while in a second apartment the plates will be kept ready and the linen at hand. It may be added that the subsidiary rooms, to the dining hall, have the floors and walls tiled so that they can be maintained beautifully sweet and clean.

In the height of the season when the dining-halls are ablaze with electric lights of variegated hues, the guests cheerful and enjoying the good things set before them, the waiters prompt and bustling silently, and everybody in the highest spirits, the scene should be as bright and gay as anything to be witnessed in a great London restaurant, or let us say, to please our American friends, the wonderful Waldorf-Astoria.

SOME INNOVATIONS.

Some excellent innovations are introduced by the proprietors of the King Edward Hotel. On each floor, there will be a "boy" in constant attendance. Whatever is wanted at a moment's notice will be obtained by him. Indeed, that is one of the characteristics of the Hotel—prompt attention to the wishes and requirements of the guests, no bungling or delay, movements, but swift, willing and cheerful service—a fact which should do much to extend the patronage of the Hotel, and one which all visitors to the East will appreciate. Again, on each floor, there is a speaking tube communicating with the office, and a telephone in connection with the Central Exchange. No need for a guest on the top floor or anywhere else in the building to clamber down the stairs or to the lift in order to reach the office of the Hotel when he wants to telephone to a friend. The telephone is at his hand, "eye ready," which is in itself a convenience that will be highly appreciated by all travellers.

On the second floor will be found the guests' billiard room, with a couple of tables in it. Comfortable settees, line the walls; refreshments at hand in the private bar; and at night a profusion of electric lights will illumine the scene. The guests' billiard room is kept up with the rest of the Hotel, which is quite explanatory of its appearance. Adjoining it is the smoking room, where a man may sit and watch the stars from the verandah or comfortably read the evening newspaper while enjoying My Lady Nicotine. The reading room, furnished with all the latest magazines and papers, is next door. It is furnished with lounges and sofas and easy-chairs, so that any gentleman will find himself satisfied with the surroundings.

A LIVELY APARTMENT.

Further on there is a private dining-room which will accommodate 24 persons. It is handsome and stylish apartment, away from the busy throng, where a select party may enjoy an excellent time. The ladies' dressing room is near by, a luxurious and refreshing room, open to the breezes, right at the Des Voeux Road corner of the building. Like the rest of the special apartments it is furnished in an elegant and charming style, attractive to the artistic taste and thoroughly not to say delightfully furnished. There is a ladies' reception room, and ladies' waiting room, where visitors who come from the country—that is to say from a distance—may scribble a note to their friends. This is one of a suite of three rooms which are set apart solely for the use of ladies. The others are a tea-room and a sitting room. Needless to say all are fitted up in a manner which will compare with anything seen elsewhere, and should prove a *rendezvous* for the fair sex in Hongkong. In addition there is a cloak room, and lavatories, and all the usual accessories.

On each floor, the ladies' and gentlemen's lavatory and bath rooms are widely separated, and the appointments are of the most modern type. The *Manchuria* is bringing from America a great stock of up-to-date bath room appliances specially selected by Mr. Durabek. This is from the Hotel's managers. On one side there is the Peak district; on the other Kowloon. From the top-story, the fifth floor, one overlooks the highest buildings in Hongkong. Every bed room has its verandah, and every verandah its view. But the feature is that there is a beautiful vista afforded from all the higher rooms, while the cool fresh air will refresh the tired visitor on the hottest day in summer. There are special corner rooms which are larger than the others, but all are admirable and with the exception of these corner rooms all are of the same size—about 15 feet by 30 feet. The furniture of the bed rooms is ample and splendid—bed, sofa, two lounge chairs, marble, dressing tables, mirrored almiraes and a couple of long mirrors besides and all the rest of the usual appointments. There are 30 bedrooms altogether, which with the 35 or 36 in the other building give the King Edward a total of some 75 bedrooms. All the rooms in the new structure communicate with each other from end to end, and on the top floor a corridor 100 feet long and 16 feet wide runs the length of the building. The bath rooms are sufficient in number for all to bathe at the same time, so that there need be no waiting or hanging about.

An iron fire escape, with stone side walls runs from the top of the building to the bottom, which should calm the nervous because it is absolutely fire proof.

On the basement there are special rooms for luggage and stores. The luggage that is not required will be placed on stands, while the wire cellars are both ample and large.

Altogether the King Edward Hotel is a splendid example of what can be done in Hongkong in the architecture and furnishing lines. Messrs. Leigh and Orange were the architects; Messrs. Powe & Co., Ltd., superintended the arrangement of the fittings. There will be a special opening night which, it is intended, should prove a notable function on a most interesting occasion.

BANKRUPTCY.

A QUESTION OF SECURITY.

7th inst.

This morning, before His Honour, Sir Francis Pigott, Chief Justice, presiding in Bankruptcy Jurisdiction, in the case of Choi Chung Lee, alias Choy Chung, Captain Loi Tai Chan, Mr. F. B. L. Bowley, Crown Solicitor, appearing on behalf of creditors, applied for the discharge of the warrant issued by His Lordship last month. The debtor was now in police custody, in connection with certain charges of fraud in relation to his bankruptcy. Mr. P. W. Goldring, of Messrs. Brutton, Heit and Goldring, representing the debtor applied for an order from His Honour for the return of the \$5,000, deposited as security for the debtor's appearance before His Honour, on the public examination might be continued.

Had Mr. Wakeman any objection to the refunding of the security?

Mr. Wakeman, Official Receiver, said he had no objection to offer.

His Honour: You apply then, Mr. Goldring, for the discharge of the security?

Mr. Goldring: Yes, my Lord, that is my application in effect.

Mr. C. F. Dixon, of Mr. John Hastings' office, representing other creditors, suggested that the money should be held until the public examination was completed.

His Honour: But the security was only given for the due appearance of the debtor. The debtor was now in Government custody, and there could be no better possible security than that for his appearance.

Mr. Dixon: Suppose he is discharged at the Magistrate's?

His Honour: Then you must watch the proceedings and apply again.

Mr. Dixon: He might be discharged tomorrow afternoon, too late to make any application and run away out of the jurisdiction.

His Honour: Is he coming to the Criminal Sessions, or going to be dealt with by the Magistrate?

Mr. Bowley: He must first go before the Magistrate, my Lord, and he might be discharged by that Magistrate, my Lord.

His Honour: Yes, that is so; the Magistrate can discharge, or commit to the Sessions, but he has no power to convict. I can't discharge the security now. If he is committed to the criminal sessions then, I can do so. I don't see why this security should be kept longer than necessary. Your public examination, if continued, Mr. Wakeman, won't touch upon the subject, about which he is being prosecuted?

That matter is concluded up for as the public examination is concerned, and it will now be dealt with by the Criminal Court, and his public examination will be independent of that?

Mr. Wakeman: I cannot say that, off-hand, my Lord.

His Honour: I should imagine the public examination will not deal at all further with the subject of the furniture, that matter is beyond you entirely, so that you will take such steps as you can to conclude the public examination. There is not very much left to examine him on now, I think?

Mr. Wakeman: I think not, my Lord.

His Honour: Well, run through the papers and see what more there is to examine him upon. The simplest course will be that the security stand until the conclusion of the public examination, which you say will be concluded very shortly. Try to bring it off next Thursday, if you can. The warrant will therefore be discharged, and it is understood that the public examination will be concluded next Thursday, if possible.

Mr. Goldring: As your Lordship pleases, but the security has been deposited for a long time now, and the man in arrest for about six weeks.

His Honour: Is that so?

Mr. Bowley: Yes, my Lord, the security was deposited on the 4th August last.

His Honour: Then, Mr. Wakeman, push on to get the examination concluded next Thursday, so that the security can be returned.

Mr. Wakeman: I will do so, my Lord.

NORWEGIAN SHIPPING

1904-1905.

A RETROSPECT.

TRADE AND COMPETITION.

We have received from Messrs. Angard, Thomsen & Co., steamship agents, a comprehensive report on Norwegian shipping in the Far East for 1904-1905. This most interesting compilation is the work of Mr. Bjarne Angard, and from its pages we make the following extracts:

Owners having steamers in the Far East have had a lively time of it during the Russo-Japanese war, and can look back upon the period as one of the most successful in their history, bringing them good remuneration at a time when practically all other markets were at low ebb.

Most of the Norwegian steamers out here were employed in Japanese, Korean and Manchurian coasting trades, trade between Japan and North China and between Hongkong and Formosa. Owing to the Japanese regular lines, principally the Nippon Yusen Kaisha, from the Hotel's managers. On one side there is the Peak district; on the other Kowloon. From the top-story, the fifth floor, one overlooks the highest buildings in Hongkong. Every bed room has its verandah, and every verandah its view. But the feature is that there is a beautiful vista afforded from all the higher rooms, while the cool fresh air will refresh the tired visitor on the hottest day in summer. There are special corner rooms which are larger than the others, but all are admirable and with the exception of these corner rooms all are of the same size—about 15 feet by 30 feet. The furniture of the bed rooms is ample and splendid—bed, sofa, two lounge chairs, marble, dressing tables, mirrored almiraes and a couple of long mirrors besides and all the rest of the usual appointments. There are 30 bedrooms altogether, which with the 35 or 36 in the other building give the King Edward a total of some 75 bedrooms. All the rooms in the new structure communicate with each other from end to end, and on the top floor a corridor 100 feet long and 16 feet wide runs the length of the building. The bath rooms are sufficient in number for all to bathe at the same time, so that there need be no waiting or hanging about.

It is from the same source that our strongest competitors must come. The Japanese have shown themselves to be admirable, calculators, indefatigable and intelligent workers in the art of war, and their mercantile abilities are, if anything, superior to their martial qualities. Now that the war has been brought to a successful issue, they will, with all that energy which has actuated the world, go in for peaceful acquisitions, and their steamers, so long bound transports, will, by one, dozen by dozen, be released and be thrown into the market. Already, several of the regular lines which were kept up by chartered tonnage, have again put Japanese boats on the run. A friendly competition, hard as it at times may become, will however not result in any of the contestants losing heart; but will rather tend to increase the feeling of comradeship, and we are glad to state that the Norwegian boats and Norwegian captains have been and are very favourably known upon every coast, foreign, Japanese and Chinese, chartered out in the East.

Owing to the tightness of money and the unsatisfactory results of previous ventures, local Chinese, who, in former years took the largest number of Norwegian steamers on time charter, practically withdrew from the market. The export of rice from Saigon to Hongkong dwindled down to practically nothing, and during the whole time the war lasted the situation may truly be described as this: that the market was most active and fixtures most numerous in the North, the Hongkong market following as a bad second, and the Singapore and Bangkok markets being the slackest, with no demand in comparison to former years.

The Norwegian tonnage was especially hampered in the Bangkok trade where the North German Lloyd has assumed a control which practically constitutes a monopoly. How long this is going to last we cannot say, but in the immediate future no hopes of an increase of trade for our steamers may be expected in this direction, so that the efforts will have to be concentrated upon retaining as much as possible of what we have until an efficient arrangement can be made to protect our interests in Siam and Straits Settlements.

The way in which the German Companies have been able to expand their Eastern trade commands entire admiration and it is to be hoped that Norwegian owners will take the lesson set by their German competitors to heart, and adopt a closer combination with each other, coupled with a bolder support of those who have been placed out here to attend to their interests.

By acquiring new and expanding their old regular lines, the Japanese and Germans have got a foothold in the East from which they will not be ousted, and which it may be assumed will lead to their ultimately becoming more and more congenial competitors, not only to Norwegian owners but also to the British, who hold the record as the largest shippers,

traders and carriers to the Far East and on the coast out here.

The two Norwegian whalers *Ror* and *Reyna* stationed at Nagasaki have, we understand, had a prosperous year on the Korean coast, and it is reported that the whaling fleet is going to be augmented by one or two steamers. Japanese have just ordered whalers to be built at Nylände Shipbuilding Yard, Christiania, and we expect that the competition between the different firms in this line will become even keener than it has been.

FOREIGN CARRIERS.

Owing to the large influx of underbills, the various Governments and authorities in the East decline to allow saloon and firemen not having the necessary means of subsistence, to be discharged from steamers arriving out from home, except the owners or their agents deposit sums varying between \$200 to \$500 or the necessary amounts for passages home. These regulations, which are justified in every way by the circumstances, have led to various controversies between the Consuls and the Captains. The procedure is, however, becoming more and more common in Norwegian shipping circles, so that further controversies hardly will occur in the future.

REMITTANCES.

During the period in question and for the steamer fixed by us, more than kroner 7,000,000 were encashed and have been remitted home, besides more than kroner 2,500,000 purchase money for Norwegian steamers which we have sold out here.

EXCHANGE.

The dollar is at present standing at 2.1 1/16 demand draft, a splendid exchange, which will recoup the owners somewhat for the increased cost of running their steamers and for having had to accept lower freights of late. The average exchange which in 1900 was at 2.10, had fallen in 1901 to 2.11, in 1902 it was approximately 2.14, and in 1903, 2.18. Last year the value of the dollar again rose to 2.10, on an average and during the last months of this year it has been steady at the increase with quotations as high as 2.10 for June, 1906.

WORKING EXPENSES.

An enormous increase in prices for all commodities required not only by those living permanently in the East but in no smaller degree necessary to the working of the steamers out here, must, we regret to say, be recorded. This has especially been the case in Japan and Hongkong, the direct cause being the war and the abnormal activity occasioned by the same. An active agitation has now set in to counteract the continued increase. Whether this attempt will prove abortive or not, the future will tell, but in the meantime we are in the midst of an upheaval with no certain prospects of a decline.

DOCKING CHARGES.

Owing to the loyal support of Norwegian owners, who have appointed us their agents, we were able to make very satisfactory contract with the local Dock Company, monopolizing the docking facilities at Hongkong, ensuring for the steamer in our hands a considerable reduction in docking charges, etc., thus effecting a saving of thousands of dollars to our clients.

SALVAGE AND INSURANCE.

The mutual salvage arrangement at present existing between the largest Steamship Owners in China, Messrs. Butterfield and Swire, Jardine, Matheson and Company, and the China Merchants Steam Navigation Co., by which vast sums are saved by the companies in question, commands the attention of Norwegian owners and underwriters.

The insurance question ought, we think, also to be reconsidered in view of the anticipated hard competition in the shipping line out here. Any change of system which would lead to a reduction in the present insurance premiums would help Norwegian steamers to retain what they have, and to get an increase of trade under the Norwegian flag. In this as in other directions a combination of the many small interests into one large common one, is much to be desired. A glance at the scale on page 7 giving names of the Norwegian owners having steamers trading out here will show our readers how split-up the Norwegian interests in reality are.

NORWEGIAN CONSULAR FEES.

Owing to that firms who had chartered Norwegian steamers on time charter declined to pay the consular fees, we have had the following clause inserted in our charters:

"Norwegian Consular fees including those payable at ship's port of registry amounting to 100 shillings per month, to be paid by the charterer to owners' agents in monthly instalments," by which we have been able to refund owners leaving their steamers in our hands considerable sums of money.

ARBITRATION AND LAWSUITS.

As agents for the Nordisk Skibsfartsselskab, we have attended to several arbitrations and lawsuits concerning Norwegian steamers.

BUNKER COALS.

The price of bunkers has constantly risen owing to the lack of coal from Japan resulting from want of miners and railway trucks and owing to the increased consumption during the war. We have, however, as agents for the "Steamship Owners' Co-operative Association" been able to secure bunker coal at lower prices than individual owners have had to pay.

The coal question has become of vast importance than ever to the large fleet of vessels at present trading in the East, and as prices for Japan coal are as high as \$12 at present, we may look forward to increased import of Bengali coal, which can be brought on the market here at about \$2.50 per ton, or of Australian coal, of which latter large shipments have arrived. If Indian and Australian coal get hold of this market, we expect new trades to spring up, principally for vessels of larger type, between Calcutta-Singapore and Hongkong, and between Newcastle, New South Wales and the North.

Attempts are also being made to place Borneo coal on the market; however the great difficulty in getting miners to work the fields owing to the climate and to hygienic impediments may prove too great at present.

At the beginning of last autumn and winter, Cardiff coals were practically a drug on the market on account of the large influx, but these cargoes have now been worked off, and the market has again attained its normal aspect.

CHARTER PARTIES.

The charter parties in vogue out in the East vary in their contents so materially that Norwegian owners in company with their competitors ought to effect a unification and to secure a standard form for the whole of East Asia similar to what has been done in the West Indian and North American trades.

Attempts, related by us, have of late been made up north to still further secure for charterers a form most satisfactory to them and obnoxious to owners.

By mutual concessions, a reasonable charter form satisfactory to both parties could easily be arranged. However, as long as owners do not take the initiative and as long as agents and brokers in their attempts to do business as *low price* support the claims of the charterers, we must have to be content with the clause at present reigning.

QUESTION OF COSTS.

6th inst.

In appellate jurisdiction, in Summary Action No. 1205 of 1905, between Tam Mun Sung and Nam Yau, and Cheung Sau Pang, before the Full Bench, their Honours Sir Francis Pigott, Chief Justice, and Mr. A. G. Wise, Puisne Judge, presiding, Mr. H. H. Slade (on behalf of Mr. E. H. Sharp, K.C.) instructed by Mr. D. V. Stevenson, of Messrs. Deacon, Looker and Deacon, appeared to move the Court to vary the order of the order of the Honorable Court made in this action on the 4th day of November, 1905, as regards that portion thereof, staying execution in respect of the costs of the hearing thereof, in the Summary Jurisdiction.

Mr. H. H. Slade, K.C., instructed by Mr. C. E. H. Beavis, of Messrs. Wilkinson and Grist, said he had a preliminary objection to make. Section 32 of the Code under which the order was made, allowed ten days in which to appeal against such order. That order was obtained on the 4th November, 1905, while the motion was dated 4th December, 1905, or one month later, and thus the appellants were out of time, unless they could show that the motion was previously entered.

Mr. Slade said that *ex parte* motion was made on the 18th November.

Mr. Pollock:—That also, your Lordships will see, would be out of time.

His Honour the Chief Justice:—But the *ex parte* motion was made on the 18th November, and the order of the Court was made on the 10th November, so they would not be out of time, as the ten days would not elapse until the 20th idem.

Mr. Slade said that the order was made staying execution as regards costs, but their Lordships would not have made that order without conditions, the condition being that it would not be stayed unless the defendants' solicitors refused to give an undertaking to repay the costs if the appeal was successful, and he then proceeded to quote several authorities in support of his motion. Mr. Pollock said that Mr. Slade had argued under the wrong section of the Ordinance. Order 58, rule 16, puts it emphatically that an appeal shall not mean a stay of execution, or of proceedings under the order appealed from, and this clearly implied that it would not be granted by the Court unless some notice was given to the other side of such application, as such an application could not be made *ex parte*. Mr. Pollock then quoted authorities in support of his objection.

Their Lordships, after hearing further arguments from both sides, said they would reserve their decision.

THE UNION INSURANCE SOCIETY.

NEW POWERS GRANTED.

6th inst.

In Original Jurisdiction before His Honour, Sir Francis Pigott, Chief Justice, this afternoon Mr. E. H. Sharp, K.C., instructed by Mr. F. V. Deacon, of Messrs. Deacon, Looker and Deacon, applied for an order confirming the resolution passed at a meeting of the Union Insurance Society, Ltd., on the 4th November, 1905.

Mr. Sharp said that this was a special resolution for enlarging the scope of the company's powers. The order for the advertising of the intention to bring this application before the Court had been carried out.

There were three divisions in the resolution: the first provides for the increase in the partnership members; the second for the acquiring shares in other companies; and the third a general power for the investment of the surplus funds in other companies, and the object was for the Union Insurance Society to acquire shares of the China Traders' Company, Ltd. Mr. Sharp then called attention to the sound financial position of both companies, and remarked that the market value of the Society's shares, at \$100 paid up, now stood at \$750, and the business of the companies and their shares had risen considerably since this scheme was announced.

During the past 15 years the ratio of losses on policy holders' claims in the Society amounted to about 50 or 60 per cent of the premium, and Mr. Sharp then went into figures culled from the companies' reports already published, and added that as regards the China Traders' Company the value of the shares was \$85 but now stood at \$90, and the losses had never caused them to encroach on the reserve, and every year showed a large profit on premium alone. He would further say that if all the policy holders came forward to object to this proposed scheme, His Lordship would see that their interests were entirely secure; but as a fact, though this petition and the resolution had been widely published not one policy holder had come forward to object. It was not sought at present to enter into any partnership with the China Traders' Company, but only to acquire a large number of shares, and so perhaps a controlling interest, and the Association gives an undertaking not to use any of the new powers conferred under the resolution, until all the present policies have expired, save only with the China Traders' Company, Ltd.

His Lordship reviewed the purposes of the proposed alterations in the Articles of Association and said he was satisfied that the business of both the companies was being properly carried out, and the interests of the policy holders well looked after, and in view of the high standing of both companies he thought he was justified in granting the petition.

JAPANESE SHIPPING.

PROGRESS OR RETROGRESSION.

INTERESTING PARTICULARS.

At a meeting of the Ship-building Society held in Tokyo, Mr. S. Terada, in the course of a speech, touched upon an interesting phase of Japanese shipping. He said—

"Prior to the Japan-China war of 1894-5, Japanese steamship tonnage was 680, and their aggregate tonnage only reached 120,000. After the war, however, the number increased to 827, and the tonnage to 213,000, the latter showing an increase of more than 40 per cent. The increase during the late war, however, amounted to a little more than 40 per cent. At the end of 1903 the number of Japanese steamships was 1,088, and their tonnage aggregated 610,000. At the end of September, 1905, the figures were 1,530 and 930,000 respectively. It is true that Japanese shipping, which ranked ninth on the list in respect to tonnage, has advanced to the position of fifth at a bound after the war, leaving Holland, Italy, and Spain in the rear. It is open to doubt whether Japan is not behind the countries mentioned in point of quality. The number of steamers purchased during the war was 125, with an aggregate tonnage of 500,000, 720 of the steamers being over 1,000 tons. The majority of the ships, however, are obsolete cargo boats. Their average speed is 10 to 12 knots, while their age averages 17 years. The price paid for these ships was comparatively high, being an average of \$75 per ton. With regard to the nine newly-built ships, the tonnage of which aggregates 24,000, seven of these possess a double bottom, and they are mostly built of steel. Their speed ranges from 14 to 18 knots, but, generally speaking, they can hardly be classed as fast ships. The wooden vessels, totaling 1,507 tons, and steel vessels aggregating 7,461 tons were built during the war."

"The number of chartered vessels that plied along the coasting ports during the war totaled 1,542, with an aggregate tonnage of 2,800,000. This greatly relieved the pressure upon the coasting trade by steamers being withdrawn to serve as transports; though the passenger traffic suffered considerable inconvenience for some time. The chartering cost, valued at \$1.50 per ton, had advanced roughly to 10 million yen. The captured vessels of over 1,000 tons numbered 35; their tonnage being 170,000; the vessels lost or sacrificed in the war were also 35, of a total of 85,000 tons. Thus Japan's mercantile navy now consists of 4,978 foreign-rigged vessels of 1,250,000 tons, including 1,360 steamers with the aggregate tonnage of 920,000."

"Although the number and tonnage of Japanese steamers have increased by 100 per cent, as stated above, compared with the fleet before the war, a diminution of about one knot is to be observed in the average speed, and an increase of one year and a half in the average age of the ships. A decrease is also to be noted in the number of vessels possessing double bottom. In this regard Japanese shipping appears to have made retrogression rather than progress, and at the earliest possible moment the ships of obsolete type must be replaced by those of newer pattern. Assuming the average seaworthy duration of ships to be 25 years, it is clear that existing vessels, the average age of which is 14 years, must be replaced in the course of the next eleven years. In other words, Japan must build or purchase new vessels totaling 64,000 tons every year. In the past, 35,000 was the maximum tonnage Japan had built in a single year. It will therefore be readily seen that unless great progress is made in shipbuilding enterprises in Japan, they will not be equal to the increasing requirements."

CHINESE CURRENCY.

PADDY CULTIVATOR THE BASIS OF PROSPERITY.

6th inst.

TRADE MARK CASE.

RUBBER SHOES IN COURT.

In Original Jurisdiction this morning His Honour, Mr. Justice Piggott, Chief Justice, presiding, in the case of the North British Rubber Company, Ltd., versus Jorg and Company, Ltd., (1) an injunction to restrain the defendants from using the plaintiffs' trade mark and (2) an order for the plaintiffs to deliver up the goods, not of the plaintiffs' manufacture, as and for goods manufactured by the plaintiffs, (3) an account of damages, (4) delivery up of the marked goods, (5) further and other relief, and (6) costs, was called on by Mr. H. E. Pollock, K.C., instructed by Mr. C. D. Wilkinson, of Messrs. Wilkinson and Gird, solicitors for the plaintiffs, the North British Rubber Company, Ltd., whose registered office is at Castle Mills, in the City of Edinburgh; Scotland, manufacturers of India rubber goods, defendants being not present and not represented said that this action is brought for an injunction to restrain the defendant company from infringing a trade mark applied to India rubber shoes, which mark was long ago registered in England and a trade mark of the plaintiff company, and also by their agents, Messrs. W. G. Humphreys and Co., in Hongkong on the 10th August, 1885, which latter registration was renewed 14 years later, on 10th August, 1899. The infringement complained of is the sale by defendants of India rubber shoes bearing on them a "Lion Rampant" which in appearance is very similar to the "Lion Rampant" trade mark registered by the plaintiff company, and applied by them to the India rubber shoes they manufacture. The defendants have themselves come to the conclusion that there can be no question of the infringement, and they are accordingly prepared to consent to judgment in this action, and have filed an affidavit to that effect.

Under the circumstances it is desired not to put the defendants to any further expense than is necessary to safeguard the interests of the plaintiff company, and to indemnify them against the expenses the latter have themselves incurred. But inasmuch as the plaintiffs are not in the Colony and their desire as to whether all that is claimed in the endorsement on the writ, and to which, upon the authorities, they are strictly entitled, cannot be immediately ascertained, it is necessary that Counsel should ask for judgment for all that is claimed, the defendant's solicitor has been informed that no steps will be taken on the judgment as regards the delivery up of the goods, and the account of damages, until definite instructions are received from the plaintiffs on the subject. It is thought to be very possible that the plaintiffs will not insist upon the absolute destruction of the marked goods, the erasure of the mark on which is impracticable, although they are entitled to insist upon the destruction of the goods. Mr. Pollock, K. & G. 650, but they will allow the goods to be disposed of if some other indelible mark is placed upon them which will serve clearly to show that the goods are not of plaintiffs' manufacture, and they may or may not insist upon an account being taken of the profits made by the defendants of the sale of the previous lot of goods. Counsel therefore would apply for judgment for the costs of the claim as endorsed on the writ of summons. A letter has been filed from the defendant's then attorney, Mr. F. X. d'Almeida e Castro, stating that defendants had been fully informed that such an application would be made, and they had agreed to judgment to save the expenses of instructing Counsel and of having pleadings. The plaintiffs did not wish in any way to be hard on the defendants, but only desired to protect their own rights.

With regard, however, to the delivery up of the goods, it must be remembered that the goods are at present lying in the godowns of the Hongkong and Kowloon Wharf and Godown Company, against which company an injunction in another action by the plaintiffs has been granted, restraining them from parting with the possession of the goods, and that such company has a lien upon the goods for godown rent, and so on. (Moet v. Pickering, 6 C.D. 770, 8 C.D. 372.)

His Honour: But how can I give you judgment on the subject of damages in the absence of any evidence?

Mr. Pollock: We want judgment in full of our claim, but the plaintiffs may not press for damages.

His Honour: Then I'll give you judgment and costs, and the question of damages to be settled by further inquiry, by the Registrar.

Mr. Pollock: Yes, my Lord, that is what we want.

THE SEQUEL.

Mr. Pollock, under the same instructions, in the case of the North British Rubber Co., Ltd., v. The Hongkong and Kowloon Wharf and Godown Company, Ltd., for an injunction to restrain defendants from parting with the possession of 15 cases of India rubber shoes stored in the defendant's Godown No. 8, and marked with a "Lion Rampant" which is plaintiffs' trade mark, moved that the duty to deliver up the goods, which goods were marked with a fraudulent imitation of the plaintiffs' trade mark. This action had been rendered necessary by the refusal of the defendants to give any undertaking not to deliver up the goods under an order of the Court restraining them from so doing was obtained. The defendant Company required prompt action to be taken to obtain the injunction complained of, though the defendants might have been joined with defendants in the action above mentioned. Against Jorg and Company for infringing the plaintiffs' trade mark, it was not advisable to so join them before first giving defendant notice of the infringement and ascertaining whether they would give an undertaking not to part with the possession of the goods. The costs of wharfers who were joined as defendants (Moet v. Pickering) were ordered to be paid by plaintiffs, because it had been found that they had been unnecessarily joined as defendants inasmuch as they had made no threat to part with the goods. In the present case the defendant company, after being invited to do so, and after having it pointed out to them that their duty was to give an undertaking not to part with the goods, not only declined to do so, but required the plaintiffs to go to the expense of obtaining an injunction, which injunction was now sought, intimating that if such injunction were not obtained they would not withhold delivery of the goods to the consignees. Under these circumstances, after giving several authorities, Mr. Pollock submitted that defendants should be ordered to pay the costs of this motion, for they unnecessarily rendered it necessary for these proceedings to be taken. If the defendant company are ordered to pay the costs they may possibly be held, on the authority of Moet v. Pickering, to have a lien for their costs and their own costs on the goods.

In the godown as well as for godown rent and other charges, but having regard to their conduct in unnecessarily causing such costs to be incurred, it is doubtful if such a lien would be allowed them. It was necessary to consider that all which is asked for is an injunction restraining the defendant company from parting with the possession of the goods to any one, but it was necessary to amend that otherwise the order in the case against Jorg and Co. could not be complied with; i.e. how could the defendants deliver up the goods, when there was the order of the Court restraining them from delivering them up to any one? It is therefore advisable to amend the order by asking, as would have been asked in a statement of claim, for such further and other relief as the nature of the case might require, which would enable His Lordship to make an order for the delivery up of the goods to the plaintiffs only, and he would ask that the writ be amended accordingly. After quoting further authorities on the subject of costs from which the inference was that, if the wharfer does not do his duty as so laid down, he must pay the costs incurred by such refusal or neglect to do so.

His Honour gave judgment for plaintiffs in terms of the modification and amendment of the motion, and costs against the defendant Company.

WATER RETURN.

Level and Storage of Water in Reservoirs on the 1st December.

	1904.	1905.
Tytam...	0' 0" above	11' 1" below
Ilyewash...	28' 11" below	28' 1" below
Pokfulam...	10' 9" below	17' 13" below
Wong-nai...	4' 2" below	15' 4" below
cheong...	overflow	overflow
STORAGE GALLONS.		
Tytam...	385,160,000	295,000,000
Ilyewash...	nil	nil
Pokfulam...	42,680,000	29,540,000
Wong-nai-cheong...	nil	nil

Total... 427,840,000 324,540,000

Consumption of Water in the City of Victoria and Hill District during the month of Nov.

	1904.	1905.
Consumption...	123,229,000	116,409,000 gallons
Estimated population...	226,000	230,900

Consumption per head per day... 18.2 16.8 gallons

Consumption of Water in Kowloon Peninsula during the month of November.

	1904.	1905.
Consumption...	15,680,000	15,224,000 gallons
Estimated population...	70,700	76,350

Consumption per head per day... 7.4 6.6 gallons

The Government Analyst reports that the water is of excellent quality.

W. CHATHAM, Water Authority.

CHINESE ENGINEERING AND MINING CO.

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Mr. Edmund Davis seconded the motion, which was agreed to unanimously.

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Viceroy Yuan proposes to invite the other Viceroy and Governor to join him in the presentation of a memorial, embodying an appeal to the Throne to forbid, by law, the smoking of opium. All slaves of the drug, who are under fifty years of age, are to be compelled to cure themselves of the evil habit.

FIRES IN DUBDELL STREET.

At about 4 o'clock this morning residents in the vicinity of Dubdell Street were aroused by the alarm of a fire in that locality, and investigations showed that a small fire had broken out in the godown of Messrs. Kelly and Walsh. From investigations it was found that a pot of glue was left burning on a wooden floor, as it was alleged, by an Indian watchman, and this being in some way upset caused ignition of some godown refuse on the floor, the fire communicating thence to the floor itself. On the alarm being given the Fire Brigade turned out, but their efforts were scarcely needed as the Indians had already almost quenched the flames. The damage is estimated at not more than \$500.

MISSIONARIES AND COMMERCE.

With the barbarous massacre of missionaries at Lintao, so forcibly before us, all the many plights that have been forced upon the suppression of missionaries are doubled in their significance. It must, however, be remembered that the missionary has far more than one use, and however he may have failed at one time, and in different places on an errand which should above all things carry with it the very essence of peace, we cannot refrain from according to him well-merited words of praise in other ways. We have seen how once referred to the arrogance which pervades a white man to try to alter the way he may choose to term the idolatry of a tribe or nation when that so-called idolatry has many features similar to his own belief and more than that, is one that has endured for centuries and which saw its beginning when the white man's country was perchance one of the babies of the world. It seems utterly to forget the horrible tortures which have been inflicted from time to time marred the beauty of the Lintao religion, and should the folk he now seeks to convert to his own religion, resent his intrusion and make known their resentment by brutal massacre, the chief cause is assigned to the fact that they are not Christians, instead of ascribing it to a lack of civilised education through centuries of centuries which as much as anything helps to eradicate or suppress the barbarity which is habitual to humanity. Therefore we argue that when the chief work of a mission is to open up hospitals for the relief of suffering and pain, the foundation of all that we consider the brightest and best in Christianity is well and truly laid.

There is yet another way and in this direction missionaries deserve well of their country. Too often the direct poverty exists among the tribes of the world who not little of the white man and his ways, and in going amongst them pointing the way to happier things by tutoring them in some new and remunerative industry, the missionary not only provides the black or yellow man with a better conception of life and instils gratitude and love into his breast, but achieves an amount of practical good for his country which cannot be over-estimated. Help him to make his own narrow life happier and when complete confidence is gained then you are really working for his good, point out the tenets of the Christian faith and give him credit for the possession of an intelligence. Therefore for himself that the man or woman who has taught him so many things for his material profit can only be thinking of his good in voicing the slightest protest against the worship to which he has been accustomed. Thirty long years ago General Gordon made an eloquent appeal for a mission, more especially on commercial and industrial lines, to be despatched to the Soudan, and about Christmas the wish of the dead hero will have been its fulfilment. Under the auspices of the Church Missionary Society a pioneer expedition is now on its way to Mongalia, near the borders of the Egyptian Soudan and Uganda, to help better the lot of the pagan tribes who have their abode in the surrounding districts, but religion will not be the only consideration, Lord Cromer has been careful to avoid the Mahometan population while the mission will be paid to medical requirements and the teaching of fresh industries, notably the manufacture of bricks. All honour and success to such missions.—Shanghai Times.

W. CHATHAM, Water Authority.

CHINESE ENGINEERING AND MINING CO.

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Mr. Edmund Davis seconded the motion, which was agreed to unanimously.

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CHINESE ENGINEERING AND MINING CO.

FOOTBALL NOTES.

Players should note that the rules for the present season have been altered in several particulars. Some of these alterations are unimportant and need not be mentioned, but the following additions should be noted:—

Charging is permissible, but it must not be violent or dangerous.

A player shall not be charged from behind unless he is intentionally obstructing an opponent. The old rule read "impeding for obstructing."

In temporary suspension of play, the referee shall re-commence the game by throwing the ball, instead of up as formerly.

In the penalty kick the opponents' goalkeeper shall not advance beyond his goal line. Formerly the defending goalkeeper might be anywhere within the goal area.

Steps are being taken to form a local Referees' Association composed of referees who have been examined in England or who have passed a similar test here. An attempt is being made to get together those referees who have been examined in England so as to establish a local examining board. An examination is likely to be held early in January. Each candidate will be required to have a sound general knowledge of the football rules, and to be thoroughly familiar with the off-side rule, the penalty kick and the seven offences for which penalty kicks are awarded, and such other matters connected with the rules and their enforcement as are contained in the Referees' Association. Any intending candidate is advised to make a thorough study of this chart. Particulars of the examination will be duly announced.

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LIEN-CHAU COMMISSION.

EXAMINATION OF WITNESSES.

A HONOLULU VISITOR ROBBED.

SAM-KONG VISITED.

[From Our Special Representative.]

Lien-chau, 26th November, 1905. I hope you have been receiving my despatches safely and without much delay. About every other day I have sent some of the batches should reach you in about 5 days from here. All letters are sent by special courier to Canton. The messenger travelling over the mountains instead of taking the river. Telegrams go from here to Yung-tak—two days—and are wired on from there.

Our first mail reached us two days ago, but no Hongkong papers are yet to hand.

EXAMINATION OF WITNESSES.

The inquiry continues. Each morning at 9.30 the Board assemble in a large houseboat moored just across the river opposite the landing steps and alongside the foreign Commissioners' boat. The examination of witnesses is at once proceeded with and continues until one o'clock when the inquiry is adjourned until the next day. In the afternoon the members of the Board and those accompanying them go for a walk past the ruined property and on the long stretch of moorland beyond, passing through some of the deserted villages and occasionally having a chat with one or more of the natives who, strange to say, almost invariably profess themselves Christians. Of course, they have no version of the matter and sometimes attribute the trouble to the taking of the cannon, and the finding of pathological and anatomical specimens when they went in search for them. It might be explained that these cannon are exactly in the shape of short candlesticks and are fired pointing upwards, and have no religious significance at all. Of course, there are many stories about concerning the massacre and it is apparent that there was not a great deal of animosity towards Dr. Macle. He has been here for 16 years and has undoubtedly done much good among the people in the way of medical comforts and attention.

A HOTBED OF VICE.

Lien-chau, it must be understood, is a hotbed of vice—salt smugglers galore, gamblers, opium smokers and some of the scum of Kwangsi, Kwangtung and Hunan, the citizens comprising Cantonese, Hakkas, Huanese, and also a few Lue—a race quite distinct from the Chinese who live in the mountainous areas beyond Sam-kong, ten miles from here. The town of Lien-chau is not unknown in the neighbourhood and it is possible that the large mob which assembled on the mission property and set fire to the hospitals were bent more on loot than on murder.

THE WITNESSES.

So far the witnesses examined are Dr. Macle and Miss Patterson, a native preacher of Lien-chau, a student of dentistry who has been studying dentistry under Dr. Macle at Lien-chau, also a Christian, and Dr. Macle's table boy who saw the killing of Dr. Chenut and Amy Macle beside Mrs. Macle who, by the way, was just 46 years old on the day of the massacre. After him came a Mr. Conklin, who had arrived the day before from Honolulu on a visit to his family. He gave a most vivid account of the affair at the cave and, in fact, of the whole affair. He was himself several times threatened with death and but for the fortunate manner in which he met the mob and pushed them aside and got out of the temple might have been killed with the others. As it was, he and his wife were robbed of a very considerable sum of money and valuable jewelry by a man who professed to be assisting them to escape. This man has been found and identified and is now in the yamen.

A native pastor attached to the American Presbyterian Mission and who travelled up from Canton with Mr. Gookin and arrived here one day ahead of Dr. Macle spoke as to the causes of the trouble while one of the elders of a village immediately adjoining Dr. Macle's property, and who officiated at the Joss celebration, was brought up in the custody of the Chinese to relate what he knew and did on this particular occasion. He represented all the neighbouring villages at the function and was evidently a great believer in the importance of the Joss great for good crops. The hawk who robbed Dr. Macle to the river and afterwards robbed Mr. Gookin in the cave gave his testimony and, of course, denied having committed any crime. Several other Chinese witnesses were also heard and the officials were called to testify to what they knew and did on this particular occasion. The military colonel and the sub-prefect have been called and there are several others to be heard.

A VISIT TO SAM-KONG.

To-day (Sunday), the Commissioners and Chinese officials went on horseback to the town of Sam-kong. It was a most pleasant ride through an extensive and fertile valley—beautiful hills on either side, trees with their autumnal tints, etc., etc. We saw the fortifications used against robbers on the hills which resemble old castles. The visitors passed the walled "village" of Chinan which Taotai Wen said was the first walled village he had seen in China. They are very rare. Then we passed through Lung-tau—the dragon's mouth—so named in consequence of the peculiar formation of the hills, and then arrived at the lepers' colony. We then came to the market town of Sam-kong where we were met by the Brigadier-General of the district.

AT SAM-KONG.

Sam-kong is a much more important military station than Lien-chau and at one time had as many as 1,200 soldiers in the vicinity. There are now some 500 scattered around for the purpose of preventing the Ius from getting about and looting. At the chapel of the American Presbyterian Mission, where all the officials attended service, Dr. Fulton and Beattie gave short addresses after which Dr. Macle spoke a few words. He told them that he had been away from them in consequence of Mrs. Macle requiring a change, because of an illness meeting at Canton, and that he felt sure they would have the Rev. and Mrs. Peale for the Lien-chau district. He told them about coming up the river and said that the Rev. Peale had asked him about the place and he had praised it very much and told him about the goodness of the people and how that when he had arrived here he seemed to be so happy and satisfied the scenery was so beautiful and the location of the mission property so satisfactory. Dr. Macle told them that the Rev. Peale was here for a little over a day when his life was taken away by the mob. He pointed out that they had left happy homes to come to China and give their lives for the Chinese and might have laboured here for 40 or 50 years, but they had been called away earlier than they expected. The Christians would remember what they had been taught by Dr. Chenut and Mrs. Macle and he urged them to pass on to others what they had so well said and taught them.

After the service the foreigners went to the Brigadier's yamen and found it to be a most beautiful place—the cleanest that Dr. Macle had seen in China.

They were escorted into one of the rooms and partook of a light luncheon. After a most interesting chat on various topics the party returned to Lien-chau.

OFFICIALS DISMISSED.

Regarding the Lien-chau case, the S.C. Daily Journal learns that Viceroy Tsen Ch'un-hsun submitted a full report to the Throne, giving the origin and circumstances of the case. In response thereto, His Excellency received, on the 6th inst., Imperial instructions by telegraph, ordering the dismissal from office of Shen Lin-shu, a sub-prefect of an Independent Department, and Chen Chien-shan, a major of the local troops, both officials being further required to remain in their district, until they could, within a fixed time, make the arrest of the offenders concerned. The Viceroy was, moreover, commanded to instruct his subordinates to afford efficient protection to the foreigners, which His Excellency has accordingly done.

DEATH SENTENCE.

RINGLEADERS TO BE EXECUTED.

PURSUIT OF RUNAWAYS.

CHINESE HEROISM REWARDED.

[From Our Special Representative.]

Lien-chau, December 1st. The Commission are about to close the hearing of testimony here. So far we have heard some 30 men of all sorts and conditions, and to-morrow we have before us the last batch of prisoners to hear what they have got to tell. That will about close the inquiry so far as the evidence is concerned; but it is not quite decided when we get away, as instructions are awaited concerning the disposal of the prisoners which the Chinese officials have here in custody.

There are now some 25 men under arrest in the yamen and of these it is probable that three may be executed. These are the men who stabbed Dr. Chenut when she was in the river, and also the man who accompanied the murderer into the water and, thirdly, the man who has been shown to be the leader of the movement. It was one of the gang who went into the hospital and brought out the specimens which were afterwards found in his house. He, of course, denied any association with them and accounted for their presence in his lodgings by saying that he was keeping them as evidence to show the officials of what the foreigners had on their premises. He is a bad looking man and, when resisting, arrested many miles from Lien-chau, received a nasty gash on his left cheek. He was brought back here and put in chains.

In all probability others will also be dealt with by the Chinese authorities and will get sentences of 5, 4, or 3 years, or a month's confinement, or a good bambooing. Over 200 searchers have been sent over the borders into Hunan province for the purpose of capturing some of the runaways, and as the people who were believed to be in the class of natives totally unaccustomed to travel, and conspicuous among other natives it is not unexpected that they will be long at large. Some of those under detention have been released, as they had no connection with the burning of the buildings, or the massacre of the Americans, and were not at the scene of the burning or the massacre.

BUDDHIST MONK INCARCERATED. Among those detained is the Buddhist priest who was in charge of the temple at Lung Tam where the massacre took place. He denied all knowledge of the affair and said that when the mob arrived he shut himself in his room and having invited the foreigners in to the temple and, in fact, said he did not speak to them and did not know that they had come there to take refuge. He will, of course, be punished; but to what extent has not transpired although it is most likely he will be prohibited from again taking any part in Buddhist ceremonies.

THE EXAMINATION OF CULPRITS. It should be noted that the Commissioners here are not passing sentence in a single case. The culprits are first questioned according to the usual method privately in the yamen and are afterwards brought before the Board and examined. A thought that they had given a satisfactory answer. The Board has no say in what is done in regard to the method which the Chinese adopt with any man as to the information he may tender privately at the yamen. Whatever he has to say before the Court is given openly and after the man has been sworn and cautioned in the usual manner.

SOME ABSURD STATEMENTS.

It is most likely that we shall be staying here for a few days longer, and after witnessing the carrying out of the capital sentence passed by the Chinese officials will return with all speed to Canton. A batch of Hongkong papers arrived to-day and I am most surprised to see some of the absurd statements that have found their way into the Press, such as the interference with a Joss procession, the taking of the images (given as causes for the outbreak), and the mutilation of bodies and voices of the escape of Dr. Macle and Miss Patterson. As you were the first to state, the burning of the buildings and the massacre was precipitated by the removal of 3 small cannon (which by the way did not prevent the people from firing others as they had taken more), and it is said that some of the crowd walked in to the hospital in search of them and then came across the specimens which they at once proceeded to parade around the streets. This undoubtedly incensed the people, but the fact remains that the leading men in the village doing the Joss-celebrating were told that the cannon were returned and had seen that such was the case. Stone throwing commenced and the hospitals were fired and soon a crowd of between 2,000 and 3,000 were on the scene and whether they had been summoned by the beating of a gong which, it appears, is a signal among the rowdies of Lien-chau to collect together for the purpose of looting. In all probability it was not the original intention of the people to take life, but once the flames commenced to spread and the rough element commenced wanton destruction of property in all directions, the crowd seems to have lost its head and hurried for blood. The people refused to listen to the explanation of the officials in regard to the ones to which the specimens were put by the foreigners and rushed away to the temple. There they were not long in finding their victims who had found shelter only a few feet inside. They were dragged out and killed. The bodies were not mutilated. Knife cuts on the left side of the head measuring 2 in. long and extending to the skull bone. The body of Mrs. Peale had a fatal wound on the left temple undoubtedly inflicted by a sharp blade. Mrs. Macle had a fatal wound on the right side of the forehead over an inch long and extending to the bone. This was also caused by a knife. Dr. Chenut

had a fatal wound on the chest near the heart half an inch long. Amy Macle had a wound (not fatal) on the right side of the head half an inch long. These facts were gathered by the sub-prefect of Lien-chau who held an inquest on the bodies shortly after they were found. There are the only wounds on the bodies and seem to have been inflicted (according to him) with a blade fastened on a long handle. In each case he finds that the wounds were inflicted when the victims were alive and the death was caused by drowning.

THE SHEK KOK HUI INCIDENT.

It might be mentioned that on the day of the massacre at a place called Shek Kok Hui, 7 miles from here, there is a small out station belonging to the American Presbyterian Mission. The rowdies upon hearing what had occurred here went to the small chapel there and carried off 8 or 9 benches and a reading desk and then went in to the dispensary adjoining and took away all the medicines and bottles and so on. The matter was at once reported here and a few days ago three of the representatives of the people there came over to Lien-chau to settle the matter. They said that it was the rowdies in the place and some of the children who had committed the deed and already most of the benches and desk had been returned and the bottles that could be recovered taken back. The representatives who saw Dr. Macle wished to know in what way they could assist the affair. Dr. Macle told them to pay for the missing medicine and for any damage, and the incident would be considered closed. This was done and no more will probably be heard about the matter.

REPORTED RESTLESSNESS.

In a previous communication I mentioned that it was reported the people in these parts were preparing to give us a warm reception upon our arrival. So far nothing to give rise to any alarm has transpired and our stay here is being enjoyed by the natives. The energies of Taotai Wen, the Chinese official, there appear to have been some grounds for the rumour. It has transpired that in one of the villages adjoining the missionary property the inhabitants realizing that they might be held responsible for the burning of buildings and the killing of the foreigners became alarmed and endeavoured to enlist the sympathy of the people of the 24 wards of Lien-chau in general. The people, however, refused to have anything to do with the project; hence the rumour. It is fortunate, perhaps, that they did for there are no less than 100,000 people included in the area comprising the 24 wards of Lien-chau.

THE COMMISSIONERS BANQUETTED.

On Thursday afternoon the officials of Lien-chau entertained the foreigners to a banquet held at the yamen. This function had been postponed from the first day of our arrival in deference to the wishes of Consul-General Lay who requested that any such ceremony be postponed until after the results of the Board had been concluded. In the course of the function Mr. Lay thanked the sub-prefect for all his kindness and courtesy to the mission during their stay in Lien-chau and while their task had been an unpleasant one his hospitality had not failed to make the stay one of the pleasantest.

Later, The people who are arrested deny everything and won't give any information whatever. The Chinese authorities are having the greatest difficulty in finding and arresting those who were at the ceremony, as everyone declines to mention the names of those there. Even the few men arrested, who admit that they were at the Joss celebration, insist that they are unable to give the names of others whom they must have known well and why they were standing beside for hours that day. The absolute character of the search made of property and the intricate and winding tunnels, absolutely pitch dark, satisfies everyone here that the number implicated in this hideous crime must be very large. Probably 20 or more actually took part in the burning, robbing and killing, and 300 or 400 others busied themselves in inciting the mob to commit one crime or another. Over 100 men will eventually receive punishment of different degrees. The Chinese are very serious about their participation in this affair eventually; but if one bears in mind that no Chinaman will testify against another or identify those suspected and that every man who was present on the day of the trouble even out of curiosity has run away to the next province miles from here, it can be easily recognized how difficult it is for the Chinese officials to arrest in a short time the guilty.

HEROISM REWARDED.

It has transpired that the Chinaman who risked his life for Miss Patterson and who undoubtedly saved her from certain death is a Christian convert but went into the cave with her solely with the object of leading her to a place of safety. It is the intention of the Consul-General to recommend him to be handsomely rewarded not only by the board of the American Presbyterian Mission, but is also going to recommend that he be awarded the Carnegie medal for heroism which also carries with it a pension. The man told that he was in safety and on several occasions risked his life by venturing out to see if it was safe for her to go into the open.

TAOTAI WEN EULOGIZED.

[From A Correspondent.]

Lien-chau, December 1st, 1905. The examination of witnesses is practically at an end. So many elements contributed to the circumstances in which resulted in the tragedy that the Commission will have some difficulty in making a satisfactory report.

The first account of the burning and killing, as it appeared in the *Telegraph*, contained all the main facts in the case, and they still remain the undisputed facts. The stories of taking of idols and interfering with idols, processions and the mutilation of bodies and voices here. Only two of the bodies were wantonly mutilated, and these very slightly. The rumours of trouble between the Protestant and Catholic missions are also without any foundation in fact, though there are general working conditions in Lien-chau which may require very careful investigation. But it is too soon to discuss these matters.

Before the attempt is made to fix the responsibility and to determine the causes of the Commission should be allowed to finish its work, and this work is being done with great thoroughness. And whatever the report may be, from the composition of the Commission and the care which is being exercised, it is safe to say that the report will be as fair and impartial as, under the circumstances, it could be.

The Chinese officials in the city are carrying on the trial of prisoners at the same time that the Commission is investigating. Three men have been found guilty of murder and sentenced to death. Several others have been sentenced to long terms of imprisonment. It should not pass without notice that Wen Taotai in trying the prisoners will not allow a defence of any kind. He absolutely forbids it. The Chinese are astonished at this method of examination. I do not refer to trial before the Commission, but the trial by the native officials. This is certainly something very new. But then Wen Taotai is very modern in all his ways, and surprises the Chinese

officials at every turn. He is doing everything in his power to get at the bottom of this affair, and is most anxious that every guilty man should be punished according to his merits. At the same time he is just as anxious that no innocent man may suffer anything because of this outrage.

QUEEN'S COLLEGE.

A VISIT FROM THE GOVERNOR.

His Excellency the Governor, Sir Matthew Nathan, accompanied by Mr. R. A. B. Ponsonby, Private Secretary to His Excellency, this morning paid an informal visit of inspection to Queen's College, being conducted over the building and through the class rooms, where the scholars were in session, by Dr. Watson Wright, the Principal of the College. His Excellency appeared much satisfied with all he saw in and around the College.

THE HONOURABLE LIFE ASSURANCE CO.

FINANCIAL CONDITION UNQUESTIONABLE.

Messrs. Shawan, Tomes & Co., 6th inst. The Hon. Secretary to the Life Assurance Society of the United States, have received the following telegram from the Society's head office to-day:—
"Accountant further certified Surplus Sixty-seven million (dollars gold). Financial condition is unquestionable."

THE HONGKONG VOLUNTEER RIFLE ASSOCIATION.

8th inst. The King's Park Range, Kowloon, will be available for practice shooting on the following dates in December:—
Saturday, 9th, 3 to 5 p.m. (200 yards).
Sunday, 10th, 9 to 12 a.m. (200 yards).
Saturday, 16th, 3 to 5 p.m. (200 yards).
Sunday, 17th, 9 to 12 a.m. (200 yards).
Tuesday, 26th, (Boxing Day) 10 to 5 p.m. (200 yards).
Governor's cup—Members may shoot on the 9th, 10th, 16th or 23rd for the Governor's Cup. Spoons will be presented to the three members with the highest scores.

Pool—A pool will be shot for on each of the above dates, fourteen rounds each. A special competition will be held on Boxing Day from the 500 yards range for a trophy presented by J. E.ingham, Esq., fourteen rounds and two winners in two series of seven rounds each, under handicap. Members may shoot more than once for this trophy. Three spoons will be presented by the Association to the second, third and fourth highest scores.

PROPOSED HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY.

FOR HONGKONG.

8th inst. At the meeting held at the City Hall, His Excellency the Governor, Sir Matthew Nathan, in the chair, for the purpose of hearing the views of all interested in the subject, as to the probability of forming a Horticultural Society in Hongkong, His Excellency briefly explained the object of the meeting, and Mr. S. T. Dunn, Hon. Secretary (acting and interim), announced that the proposed patrons of the new Society were: His Excellency the Governor, His Excellency Major-General Villiers Hutton, and Hon. Sir Paul Chater, who had kindly intimated their acceptance of the office. As president it was proposed to elect His Hon. Sir Francis Pigott, Chief Justice of Hongkong. The following proposed rules were then read by Mr. Dunn:

1. The Society shall be called the Hongkong Horticultural Society, and shall have for its object the encouragement of gardening in Hongkong.

2. Any person interested in horticulture is eligible for election as a member.

3. The subscription shall be \$5 per annum, payable on election or on the 1st of May in each year. The funds of the Society shall be expended on an annual exhibition of flowers, vegetables and fruits and for other purposes connected with the object of the Society.

4. The affairs of the Society shall be managed by a committee of nine members including a president, hon. secretary, and hon. treasurer, and six others to be elected annually at a general meeting to be held not later than May 1st in each year.

These rules are being discussed as we go to press.

HOTEL LAUNCH NUISANCE.

COXSAINS CAUTIONED.

8th inst. This morning, before Mr. F. A. Hazeldan, sergeant Wills of the Water Police summoned the coxswains of seven launchers, belonging to the Hongkong, King Edward, Carlton House, Park, and Kowloon hotels, and two house-boat launchers, for making fast to the s.s. *Rubi*, on Monday last, before that vessel was still under way, on her arrival from Manila. Sergeant Wills stated that the launches crowded up to the gangway, thus impeding the proper navigation of the vessel, and obstructing the passage to the vessel for legitimate traffic thereto. The defendants and the gangway was lowered when they went alongside and the steamer properly moored.

Mr. Moir, owner of the Peak Hotel launch, May I ask a question, Your Worship?

His Worship: No; but you can suggest any question to your man.

The coxswain: Were there any complaints from the captain of the *Rubi*?

Sergeant Wills: No.

Inspector Langley: The officers of the steamer complained.

His Worship: If I inflict a penalty it will be very small, but I will instruct the defendants what they must do in future.

Mr. Moir: I think the defendants would be off again if warned by the police.

Inspector Langley: The police would be satisfied if your Worship cautioned the defendants.

His Worship: The defendants are convicted, but I will not inflict any penalty. In future they must wait until steamers entering the harbour are properly moored before going alongside. I will discharge them with a caution in this case, but if they do it again I will inflict a heavy penalty.

THE annual report of the Ewo Cotton Spinning & Weaving Co. is to be submitted to the meeting of shareholders on 16th inst. shows an available balance of Tls. 265,339.00, but of which it is proposed to pay a dividend of Tls. 8.00 per share or Tls. 190,000.

PRINCE ARTHUR'S VISIT.

TO HONGKONG.

7th inst. We are given to understand that, in view of the visit of Prince Arthur of Connaught, to Hongkong, en route to Japan, whether he goes to present the insignia of the K. G. to His Majesty the Emperor of Japan on behalf of His Majesty King Edward VII., leaving England on or about the 10th prox., it is proposed to postpone the St. George's Ball so as to be held on a day during the presence of His Royal Highness in this Colony. We learn also that a movement is on foot to arrange a race meeting on the same occasion, other events being also under consideration.

CURRENCY REFORM.

"HONGKONG TELEGRAPH'S" VIEWS.

ENDORSED BY A STRAITS "GOLDITE."

A correspondent, signing himself "Goldite," writes to the *Straits Times*, on 30th ult., as follows:—
Your extract from *Hongkong Telegraph* in Tuesday's paper regarding the currency situation in the Philippine Islands strongly substantiates my communications, which appeared in the same issue of your paper. Though the Philippine dollar (peso) is worth more than the two-shilling dollar advocated by Mr. Hattenbach, the *Telegraph* states that the Chinese of Manila have already begun to ship the peso to Hongkong and Singapore, where they are presumably melted and re-coined in the form of other dollars. This fact has compelled the Philippine Commission to pass the "bury-up" legislation which you publish, in an effort to stop the melting and exportation of their currency.

These facts being true, where would Mr. Hattenbach's two-shilling dollar be now, if it had been adopted? We have no such surveillance on our exports as exists in Manila and other Philippine ports, and it would be a very easy matter to export our dollars to Hongkong for the melting pots of the northern port. It is evident that the law fixing the ratio at two shillings to the dollar would have had to be amended as soon as enacted, if Mr. Hattenbach's wishes had passed into law. Your quotation from the *Telegraph* states that the "fixity of the ratio was deferred" and "as it now proves, with a good deal of wisdom and foresight." Is it not true that an equal amount of "wisdom and foresight" will be shown by still further deferring the fixity of the ratio here, unless the dollar is to be made a very dear coin?

It seems to be a pretty general opinion that the conditions following the close of the war—payment of troops especially—have been the cause for the exceptional demand for silver and its consequent high price. If this be true, the conditions are only temporary and the metal may be expected within a few months to resume its normal value. Under these circumstances, would it not be a serious mistake to select a ratio for the dollar which would give it an unnecessarily high price? It seems to me that the only thing to be done is to wait, and I quite concur with the *Telegraph* in its commendation of the "wisdom and foresight" of our Government in adopting a waiting policy, much as we need the fixity of exchange.

AMERICA AND THE CHINESE.

AN APPRECIATION.

We have received a copy of a pamphlet entitled "America and Asia," being a survey of the present critical conditions in the trade of the United States with the Far East. As an address it was delivered by the Hon. J. Barrett, ex-U.S. Minister for Siam, by request, before the Trans-Mississippi Congress at Portland (Oregon) in August last. We make the following extracts from the brochure.

THE CHINESE BOYCOTT.

We are face to face with a crisis that has come upon us with startling rapidity, but convincing force. The Chinese boycott, in the terms of its aggressive advocates, is the culmination of influences that have been at work for years, and represents the climax of remonstrance against the failure of our people, in the opinion of the Chinese, to carry out the principle of the Golden Rule in dealing with Asiatics. The defenders and promoters of the boycott have declared in effect that China is asking a "new deal" and a "square deal" in her relations with the foreign world. They say that she is awakening to a sense of her inherent rights and of her latent power; that she is realizing as never before the value of her markets and the capacity of her vast population directed along advanced lines.

While as a Government she can not possibly have any unkind feeling toward our Government and the present administration as such, and should remember with gratitude how the United States has stood without wavering for the integrity of the Empire and the principle of the Open Door, the Chinese higher classes, including merchants, scholars, and travellers, can not understand why they should be treated differently from the corresponding classes of other races and nations who may wish to enter the United States.

There is no greater mistake than to think of China as a nation exclusively of coolies. She has millions of men distributed over her empire who possess an intelligence, refinement, and a wealth, and who represent a standard of mental, physical, and moral quality that entitles them to the respect of the foreign world.

The average foreigner, who on the one hand visits Chinatown in San Francisco or New York and then on the other hand travels up and down the coast of the Far East, it takes an occasional run into the centre of Chinese cities, concludes that China is a nation only of labourers, coolies, and petty merchants. The passing traveller, newspaper correspondent, and superficial student write letters and articles to this effect. All these stories tend to excite labouring men in the United States and cause them to believe that China is one vast horde of hungry men waiting to sweep down on the United States. While it must be frankly admitted that the average Chinese coolie and the average Chinese city do not strike the American and European as representing his standards of men and cities, yet it is a fact that the conclusions just mentioned are as unjust as the large number of educated and well-to-do Chinese throughout the Empire.

A man who goes through the narrow streets of Canton, Peking, Nanking, and Wuchang does not see the elaborate homes of the upper classes of Chinese hidden by the rows of shops that line the streets. He does not realize that there are a large number of well-kept compounds almost within a stone's throw of the crowded alleys through which he is being carried. If he should journey in an air ship over any great city in China he would be astonished to discover the number of capacious private grounds, right in the heart of its cities, owned by wealthy Chinese.

CHINESE STUDENTS AND MERCHANTS.

If the American, who always regards Chinese as coolies, could attend one of the principal periodical examinations, where representative

educated Chinese gather from all over the empire, he would marvel at the intelligence, refinement and pleasing appearance of its thousands of young men. They will compare most favourably in general demeanour, in stature, in dress, and looks, with a corresponding class of American "college" men. At the assemblies of Chinese merchants which are held from time to time in different cities throughout China, he would express profound surprise at their business-like way of doing things, and their well-bred characteristics. Our missionaries who go all over China have repeatedly emphasized that Europeans and Americans do not seem to be able to comprehend the real China and to take into consideration that it is only one side of Chinese life that is represented by coolies with whom they come in touch either in San Francisco or Shanghai.

We are too prone to think that, because a man does not speak a European language and literature and history he is not educated or even civilized. We overlook the fact that the Chinese language, literature, historical teachings, system of education and social regulations are entirely apart from ours. They are sui generis and are, in the opinion of the Chinese, as well suited for their people as ours are for us.

In proportion to the population there is less crime, no more "graff," less immorality, less business dishonesty, and less violation of the law in China than there is in the United States. I do not for a moment suggest that Chinese civilization is in any way superior to that of America, but I do say that we should not hold the supposition of racial and natural self-admiration so near our eyes that we can not see the good qualities of other races and nations.

RACIAL AND NATIONAL PRIDE.

The Chinese have a distinct racial and national pride that we are prone to overlook. They are proud of their own peculiar civilization, of their philosophy and philosophy, of their unrivalled antiquity and venerable tradition, of their customs, characteristics, regulations, fabric, political homogeneity, vast population, and great potential wealth. The fact that from our standpoint they may not have seemed to possess this pride and knowledge, and to take advantage of it in world-astonishing political and material development like the United States and Japan, in no sense, proves the lack of its existence. It is only a question of time when China like Japan will startle the world with her onward movement; and yet it was only a few years ago that foreigners looked upon the Japanese as they do now upon the Chinese.

CHINESE CRITICS OF FOREIGN ATTITUDE TOWARD CHINA.

China holds that a cardinal fault in the past dealings of Europe and America with Asia has been their spirit of patronage. Foreign progress toward power, and were it not for rapid and general that foreigners too often assume the "holier than thou" attitude. Instead of seeming sympathetic, co-ordinate and co-operative with the Asiatics, foreigners have almost unconsciously made themselves appear to Asiatics as unsympathetic, superior, and independent. The average foreign business or professional man, traveller, official, or sailor, who has made passing visits to Japan, China, Korea, Siam, and the Philippines, has had a marked tendency in both speech and manner to patronize the natives of both high and low degree. This tendency exerted over a considerable period of years has had a cumulative influence that has found ultimate remembrance in such movements as the Chinese Boycott.

BOYCOTT MAY NOT LAST.

It is not in accordance with the laws of trade that the Chinese Boycott as a boycott should be lasting. It is a temporary thing within a few months it will spend its strength. There are already indications that it is weakening. We must not, however, close our eyes and believe that there is no cause for worry if the boycott as an organized movement fails to accomplish its object. I ven if it is not lasting, it can not avoid having a depressing effect upon American trade and influence in China. It is through the boycott that millions of Chinese who before knew nothing of the United States have made their first acquaintance, as it were, with us. Vast numbers of Chinese will, unfortunately for the United States, not look with favour upon America and it will require many years to remove the false impression. A boycott of this kind also tends to develop a general anti-foreign feeling throughout China and to engender a sense of resentment against the United States which has reached its consummation in the boycott.

INFLUENCE COUNTERACTING THE BOYCOTT.

Three influences should work successfully to counteract the effect of the boycott. The first is the proclamation of the President issued last June in which he specifically stated that the Exclusion Law must be administered fairly and without discrimination against the exempt classes. When it is generally known throughout China that the President has taken this interest and concern the every Chinaman shall be treated strictly as the demands there must be a change of sentiment.

The second is the ultimate realization among Chinese in general that the United States Government has invariably been more friendly to China and has stood for the protection of Chinese rights in all diplomatic and political questions that have arisen in regard to the welfare of the Empire. It must appear to thinking Chinese that they are not warranted in taking steps that might bring about serious trouble between the United States and China just because the workings of one law in the United States have not been satisfactory to them.

The third is the expectation of the Chinese that a new treaty in time will be negotiated, which, while not allowing coolies free admission, will specify the exempt classes and regulate the rules regarding their entry into the United States that there will be no friction or difficulty in the future unless it is due to occasional bad administration of the law as may happen in any country in the practical application of statutes.

In all these discussions of the Chinese

ARRIVAL OF THE GRIFINS.

FOR THE FORTHCOMING RACES.

A FINE BATCH OF PONIES.

"The longest day has an end." For some weeks past Hongkong sportsmen have grown anxious as to the arrival of the subscription griffins for the coming races. Many rumours were current to the effect that there was a scarcity of ponies in North China and that the Shanghai Horse Bazaar might not be able to meet the order from Hongkong, and should they be able to get the required number of griffins, the animals would not be up to the standard. There were doubts also as to whether the ponies would be able to pass the time test. Quite a few alluded to the price of the ponies and we believe from this and other rumours they concluded that the races would be held very late this season, or it might be that the ponies could not be had the race carnival would have unavoidably to be abandoned. These rumours fell through when a *Telegraph* representative interviewed Mr. T. F. Hough, the clerk of the course, on the subject, when the genial race official stated that the ponies would be here ere long. A few days after our sporting contributor, The Riding Boy, wrote that a batch of ponies was about to leave Shanghai for this port. Nothing further had been heard since until on Tuesday morning last, we were given to understand that Mr. T. F. Hough, the Clerk of the Course, had received a telegram from the Northern port confirming the above report.

From inquiries made we learned that thirteen subscription griffins—the first batch for Hongkong this season—had been despatched by the Indo-China Steam Navigation Co. as *Choy Sang* on Monday and that they were due to arrive here yesterday morning. The steamer did not arrive until this morning, having been delayed at Swatow.

In the forenoon the Hongkong Jockey Club issued the following *Express*:—"Thirteen subscription griffins having arrived from Shanghai per steamer *Choy Sang*, members are notified that same will be drawn for at Kennedy's Repository to-day, Saturday, 9th December, at 4 p.m."

ON BOARD THE "CHOY SANG."

No sooner the telephonic message reached this office that the vessel was moored alongside Jardine's wharf at West Point, a *Hongkong Telegraph* representative boarded the vessel and soon saw the obliging second officer of the boat.

"What was the cause of your delay at Swatow?" asked the newspaperman. "We were delayed about twenty-four hours on account of a very heavy rain which came on the evening of the 6th and lasted until the morning of the 7th while we were anchored off the Lammoeks, outside Swatow. Very unusual weather for this time of the year."

Our representative then had a look around and found fifteen ponies in boxes quartered in the fore part of the ship, all appearing in good condition, and from a glance it could be ascertained that they were a batch of fine animals. "Thirteen of these," remarked the chief officer who was supervising the discharge, and pointing to the ponies, "are from Tientsin for Jardine's."

"How did the ponies fare on the way down?" "Very well. You see we had a very good trip and they were eating nearly all the time. These griffins, I understand, are part of the 180 ponies the *Wai Shing* brought down to Shanghai from Tientsin."

At the fore part of the ship there was a scene of great activity. Coolies standing on the top of boxes adjusting ropes with the hoists, steam whistles at work raising the horses in their boxes, while a band of coolies on the quay held on to a stout guide rope which was fixed on to each horse-box and in this way got the box over the side of the ship and on to the wharf.

"What do you think of the griffins?" asked the reporter of a racing man who was standing near by.

"None of your piebalds, (qualified by a rather forcible adjective), skewbalds and spotted, this time," remarked the gentleman. "They are the best batch I've seen for a long while, and if the others to arrive are like these I think we are lucky."

By noon the last pony was over the side and on to the pier and some minutes later the fifteen "griffs" were being marched eastwards en route to the Hongkong Horse Repository.

In our opinion the best and fastest pony of the lot, No. 6, sustained one or two nasty business during the voyage, but this will be healed before long. Our attention was also directed to pony No. 12, a well-built and strong looking animal. It is the tallest griffin of the bunch, and could we rely on appearances, there is not the slightest doubt that he will make a good 'un when in proper trim.

THE DRAWING.

This afternoon in the compound of the Hongkong Horse Repository the drawing of the griffins which arrived this morning took place. There was a very scanty attendance, when it commenced. Following are the results:

Pony No. 1.—Drawn for Mr. A. Babinington. A rather light pony. At a glance there are signs of his having been trained before. He landed here slightly lame in the shoulder.

No. 2.—Drawn for Sir Paul Chalmers. An iron-grey pony. Probably the handsomest of the bunch and in addition a powerful one. Supposing he does not turn out a racing pony he could command a good figure as a hack or polo.

No. 3.—Drawn for Mr. G. C. Moxon. A gray and pretty pony. Very neat looking. Possesses a nice head and strong loin.

No. 4.—Drawn for Mr. E. the Governor. A very handsome-looking chestnut pony. The only fault we can find at present is his colour. He presents a rare stamp and looks like galloping.

No. 5.—Drawn for Mr. J. W. Dolles. A very big, upstanding pony. Powerful looking and as he is at present uncoupled one cannot see his points.

No. 6.—Drawn for Mr. J. A. Jupp. A very nice quick-looking gray pony. He has one disadvantage and that is he possesses a sore back. This was noticed on arrival at Kennedy, Slabbers by the manager who washed it and treated it antiseptically. This will prevent him being ridden for about a fortnight.

No. 7.—Drawn for Mr. A. Heimer. A liver-coloured chestnut with a white star. This pony is on the small side but looks an honest one.

No. 8.—Drawn for Mr. W. A. Cruickshank. A dark chestnut. Very good looking. Possesses a long sloping quarter, slightly roached in the back and shows a rather straight shoulder.

No. 9.—Drawn for Mr. Craig. A grey pretty and neat-looking gray pony. Clean legs, a nice head and strong loin.

No. 10.—Drawn for Capt. Arbutnot-Leslie. A bay, fat, and heavy-looking pony. He requires a great deal of work to get him ready for the race meeting.

No. 11.—Drawn for Hon. Mr. C. W. Dickson. A grey pony. A big powerful one, with black well set down, little loaded in the shoulder but well rigged up.

No. 12.—Drawn for Mr. D. Donohoe.

A big black pony. Very poor looking and rough in condition. Considering that this pony has done his time to his present state, it shows a sign of good improvement.

No. 13.—Drawn for Mr. D. Macdonald, of Messrs. Butterfield and Swire.

Another black pony with a white star. A strong looking pony.

ALLAGHD SHUCKING SUICIDE.

CAPT. J. T. SMITH OF THE "SIBERIA" FOUND DEAD IN HIS CABIN.

7th inst. The community of Hongkong was considerably startled this morning when the news leaked out that a prominent and well-known master mariner had committed suicide in the harbour some time last night. From inquiries made this morning we learned that between 6.30 p.m. and 7 a.m. to-day, on entering the cabin of Captain J. T. Smith, of the s.s. *Siberia*, which vessel arrived in harbour on the 3rd inst., from San Francisco, to take the captain's morning coffee to him, the boy was terrified to find his master lying on his bed with his throat cut, and the head lying on blood-soaked pillow. An alarm was at once raised, the chief officer called, but the captain was quite dead, and the body nearly cold. A blood-stained razor was found by the side of the corpse. The police signal was at once hoisted and the A.T. Police, boarding the *Siberia*, took charge of the body, which they removed to the mortuary, where a medical examination was held. This afternoon, and also took charge of the captain's room.

There can at present be little doubt that it is a case of determined suicide, as we learn that during the whole voyage out Captain Smith appeared to be very depressed and was understood to be worried over domestic troubles.

Captain James Tremayne Smith was highly thought of by the Pacific Mail Steamship Co. in whose service he had been employed for a period of over twenty years, serving with great satisfaction to his owners, and rendering himself very popular with the thousands of passengers who had travelled with him, as well as with a host of other friends ashore, by all of whom his tragic death is deeply regretted.

Captain Smith leaves a young daughter in San Francisco to mourn his loss, he having recently divorced his wife. A significant circumstance in connection with this melancholy affair is that the deceased, while in Woosung on the 20th ult., made and executed his will leaving all his property entirely to his daughter.

A SALVAGE CLAIM.

THE LATE CAPT. YIHAR'S SUCCESSFUL SUIT.

The Manila *Cablenews*, of 5th inst., says:—The Supreme Court rendered a decision yesterday in the suit of Antonio Yihar vs. Millat, Alary and Mitjans. The steamer *Don Juan* owned by defendants, while en route from Hongkong to Manila, caught fire when 30 miles from the coast of Luzon. The news having been communicated to Manila, the steamer *San Antonio*, commanded by Captain Yihar, plaintiff in the present case, came to the rescue of the burning ship and towed same to this port, saving the lives of 100 passengers and valuable merchandise. Upon arrival at Manila it was found that part of the silver cargo consisted of Mexican silver, the importation of which was then prohibited, and the money was seized and turned into the treasury. Defendants refusing to settle for the services rendered by Captain Yihar, suit for the recovery of costs and fees of salvage was instituted, and the possession of the Mexican coin, as the most valuable part of the cargo, was made the object of the litigation. Defendants brought a counterclaim for 50,000 pesos, alleged to be the difference between the amount of silver invoiced at Hongkong 120,000 pesos and the sum found on board upon the vessel's arrival in Manila, the missing money, according to defendants, having been stolen by Captain Yihar.

The Supreme Court yesterday disallowed this counterclaim, holding that there was no evidence to support the allegation of theft. As to the claim of plaintiff for costs of salvage, in the sum of 4,454.50 pesos, incurred by cost of coal, salary and board, etc. of the salvaging crew, the Supreme Court rejected the judgment of the lower court in favour of plaintiff but found the latter entitled to one-third of the 70,000 pesos now deposited in the treasury, as fees of salvage.

Fate, however, has not willed that plaintiff should live to enjoy this Mexican prosperity. Captain Yihar soon after the salvaging of the *Don Juan*, took command of the *Legaspi*, which was lost in March of this year, between Hongkong and Manila, in the same waters to which he had proceeded, eight months previously, to the assistance of the burning *Don Juan*.

CANTON NOTES.
THE JAPANESE MURDERER'S TRIAL.
[From Our Correspondent.]
Canton, 5th December. The investigation into the circumstances attending the daily murder of Professor Kado, who occupied the chair of Medicine at the Whampoa Military College, has been taken out of Chinese hands and handed over to the jurisdiction of the Japanese. The alleged murderer Chok Sui Cheong, who is also a Japanese, was detained in prison until the arrival of a Japanese officer who came from the Amoy Consulate to escort the prisoner to Nagasaki where the case will be tried. The Japanese officer arrived yesterday and the accused was taken down to Hongkong en route to Japan by this morning's steamer. As I stated previously it is believed that the crime originated in a mild desire to be revenged upon those who had influenced the Chinese Government to close up all the disorderly houses in the district. The alleged murderer was interested in one of these houses and impotently cried out against their being closed, but, of course, without effect. Whereupon he took revenge upon Professor Kado, who happened doubtless to be the first fellow-countryman of authority that he met.

It is interesting in this connection that the Chinese brothel which was closed up by the Viceroy soon after the riot in the course of which the police station was demolished, has now been re-opened. The Viceroy receives \$20,000 per annum for this privilege.

COMMERCIAL.
WEEKLY SHARE REPORT.
Reviewing the share business for the week, Messrs. Benjamin, Kelly and Potts, in their report of 8th inst., write:—"A fair business has again been transacted during the week, but the tendency has been for stocks to further weaken owing, no doubt, to the inclination of holders to realize their shares in order to convert their money into gold at the present high rate of exchange."

Banks.—Hongkong and Shanghai Banks have been negotiating during the week at \$80, at which rate further shares are obtainable.

The London quotation has receded to 493. Nationals are unchanged.

Marine Insurance.—Canton is still offering at \$3.10. Unions have declined to \$3.40, while China Traders have improved to \$3.70, but shares are not available at this rate.

Fire Insurance.—Hongkong Fire has weakened and may be obtained at \$2.80. China Fires have slightly advanced and are quoted at \$2.70.

Shipping.—Further sales of Hongkong, Canton and Macao Steamboats have taken place at \$35. Indo China are in the market at \$4. Shell Transports are slightly easier with sellers at 25. There is no change in the rates of other steamer lines at the moment.

Refugees.—China Sugars have dropped to \$112 and are to be had at this price. Luxons can be procured at \$16. Penak Sugars have been placed and are inquired for at \$16.50.

Mining.—Chinese Engineers are on offer at \$1.70. Raub is steady at \$3.10. Private advices from Singapore state that the crushing for the past four weeks realized 691 ounces, smelted gold from 5,080 tons of stone.

Docks, Wharves and Godowns.—Hongkong and Whampoa Docks have been ruled weak and have been disposed of at \$16.50, \$16.30 and \$16.10, closing with buyers at the latter price. Farman after recovering to \$1.70 has receded to \$1.70. Kowloon Wharfs have improved and are wanted at \$10.80. Hongkong Wharfs have further risen, but close with sellers at \$11.20.

Land, Hotels and Buildings.—Hongkong Lands are offering after sales at \$125. Shanghai Lands have been placed at \$1.12. Hongkong Hotels have been booked at \$150 and Whampoa Estates have changed hands at \$12.

Cotton Mills.—Eros are easier with sellers at \$1.62. The annual report to be submitted to the forthcoming meeting of shareholders shows an available balance of \$12,265,939. Laou-Kung-Mow have been sold at \$5.90 and \$1.60, at which latter rate more shares are obtainable. Internationals have sellers at \$1.42.

Miscellaneous.—Green Island Cements are offering at \$18. China Providents have been done at \$9 and 4. S. Watsons are still in request at \$12. Electric (old) have changed hands at \$15. Langkats have hardened and sales at \$1.25 are reported in Shanghai.

RAUB AUSTRALIAN GOLD MINING.

Messrs. Benjamin, Kelly and Potts inform us that they are in receipt of a private telegram advising them that the crushing of the Raub Australian Gold Mine for the past four weeks realized 690 ounces smelted gold from 5,080 tons of stone.

RRKIGHT

In their freight circular of the 2nd inst., Messrs. Lamko & Rogge write:—"Chartering business during the fortnight under review has, for several reasons, been on a smaller compass than for some time past."

At Saigon, stocks of rice crop's grain would now appear to be almost exhausted. It was hoped here, that, though on a very small scale perhaps, shipments might be continued; and if not until end of January or February when the new crop produce will be available, yet, somehow, for the current month, but from reports to hand the prospects are that nothing more can be done this year. There was a solitary inquiry after a boat for prompt, to load for Java; but the business could not be brought off despite of tonnage being willing to take a low rate, and from some inquiries after steamers to load in February, March, April, there is likewise no result, partly owing to forward prices being too high yet, and partly because of high exchange, thus we have had a fortnight without any Saigon chartering at all.

The Newchwang season has closed by now. Only further local fixture that has been heard of is of a boat for Amoy, part cargo, at 26 cents.

Concerning Java freights, an adverse local market for sugar has stopped business on natives' account. On local refinery's behalf the fixtures of 2 steamers were put through, on basis of 22 cents per picul.

Coal freights have ruled quiet, with business from Moji to this port at \$1.40 and for Singapore at \$1.80, and from Mororan for Hongkong at \$1.60 per ton, and practically no further demand.

From Hongkong, a boat has been done for Hongkong at \$1.35 and for a subsequent trip for Swatow at \$1.50.

From the North some orders reached here for Moji-Shanghai at \$1.70 or slightly better, for Moji-Shanghai at \$1.75, for Koratu-Chinkiang at \$2.00 per ton, etc., but, with the North-East monsoon to beat up against, with a ballast ship these proposals offer no inducement for owners who have steamers available here.

To load at Chinkiang for Canton, from several inquiries after outsiders the fixture locally of a boat of about 30,000 piculs at \$8.00 has been the outcome.

On time basis, no business has been reported. In freight nothing is doing.

Sail-tonnage loading or to load.—None. Disengaged.—British ship *Celtic Chief*, 1,700 tons net reg. British bark *Rose*, 815 tons net reg.

Departures.—British ship *Edith*, 17th November, for Baltimore.

LOCAL AND GENERAL.

FUSAN gave a banquet to Marquis Ito on the 30th ult.

The ex-Russian battleship *Retevan* has arrived at Sasebo.

The Russian cruisers *Rosin*, *Gromobit* and *Hogaty* were at Nagasaki on the morning of the 29th ult.

The Korean Minister at Paris is going to Washington to protest against Japan's protectorate over Corea.

The engagement of Mr. W. H. Cope of the China-Lorne Company, to Miss Wardrop, sister of Lieut. A. Tucker-Wardrop, is announced.

The Viceroy at Canton and Fukien have jointly wired to the Peking authorities asking that the copper coins of the said province be allowed to be exported.

Dr. F. O. Siedman, M.D., has been appointed a member of the Medical Board and to serve as secretary of the Board in place of Dr. Alexander Rennie, M.D., resigned.

Mr. John Hay, solicitor, who for the past six years has been attached to the office of Messrs. Johnson, Stokes and Master, having severed his connection with that firm, left on Wednesday for Shanghai to join the firm of Thwaites and Ellis, solicitors, of that settlement.

The s.s. *Raja* which formerly belonged to the Harco Line has been bought by the North German Lloyd, and the *Bangkok Times* understands it to be placed on a regular run between Bangkok and Calcutta. The vessel is of 3,000 tons, and was expected in Bangkok last month.

NEBUKANT: Matthew Royal Garrison Artillery left on the 2nd inst. per s.s. *Chusan*, for Shanghai, on appointment to the Shanghai Volunteer Corps, orderly room sergeant.

LEAVE of absence on private affairs to the neighbouring countries has been granted to Lieutenant P. M. Rasking, Royal Army Medical Corps, from 15th to 24th inst.

Dr. F. O. and Mrs. Siedman returned to the Colony by the English mail *Chusan* on Friday. Dr. A. Rennie leaves for England where the popular medico will make a short stay.

A SOERABAYA telegram of the 23rd ult. to the *Strait Times* says:—"After continued pursuit extending over a period of four months, a Dutch patrol has captured the Rajah of Bondi."

MARQUIS Ito had a farewell audience of the Emperor on the 28th ult. and a final conference with the German Minister on the same day. He left, homeward bound, at noon on the 29th.

THE sale by public auction of Chan Tung Shan's property, known as "Giensekkin" in Seymour Road, with a total area of 103,450 square feet, which was to have been held on Monday, has been withdrawn.

THE following telegram has been received from the Government of Burma dated the 5th December, 1905:—"Your telegram dated 2nd December regarding restrictions against arrivals from Hongkong port removed."

BUSINESS is said to be flourishing in Cebu, and the rebuilding of the city along the improved street lines and regulations laid down by the Commission soon after the fire that swept the city a year ago, is progressing rapidly.

A big fire broke out at Penang on 26th ult. in the block bounded by Beach, Market, Chulia and Penang Streets. Several godowns were completely gutted. The damage, it is estimated, will probably amount to \$100,000.

A HONOLULU despatch of 28th ult. to the *Cablenews* says:—"The crew of the Russian ship *Lea* is in a condition of mutiny aboard the ship here. The *Lea* is on her way from San Francisco to Vladivostok. She was interned in San Francisco for many months."

WHEN the mail left Shanghai on the 4th inst., the *Maruwaru* was still hard and fast ashore, below the Kiutan beacon. She was having her cargo taken out of her in lighters here, but was not expected to come off until the tide began to make again on Wednesday or Thursday inst.

A WIRE to the *Strait Times*, of the 18th inst., says:—"At the St. Andrew's Day dinner at (Calcutta), Lord Minto made significant allusions to army reform in India. He referred to "the strong army that defends India" as being the only guarantee of security for the development and happiness of India."

THE *Tungus* arrived from the North on Tuesday. When she left Vladivostok on 18th ult., there were 28 vessels in port. Trade was practically at a standstill and many of the inhabitants of the city were starving although the ships were loaded with provisions, but owing to the trouble they could not be unloaded.

WHILE the batswain of the s.s. *Empruss of Japan* was on duty on the main deck of that vessel on Thursday, he suddenly fell to the deck and lost consciousness. When the doctor was summoned he pronounced life to be extinct, and a *post mortem* examination showed the cause of death to be heart disease.

THE undermentioned details arrived on Tuesday per s.s. *Wangong* from Tientsin on route for England:—2nd Royal West Kent Regiment, Lieut. G. de St. Stevenson, 85 A.C.O.'s and Men. Royal Garrison Artillery—4 N.C.O.'s and Men. 2nd York and Lancaster Regiment—1 N.C.O. Royal Army Medical Corps—Capt. E. V. Aylen, and 1 private.

THE enterprise of the Messageries Maritimes has warranted that great French steamship company to soon extend its service to Manila and the Philippines. The *Annam* will be the first boat of the company to arrive at Manila, which will probably be on December 11. The *Annam* sails from Kobe, Japan, coming direct to Manila, thence to Europe with calls at Singapore, Colombo, Aden, Suez and Mediterranean ports to Marseilles, the terminus of the line.

THE *N. C. D. News* of 30 ult. says:—"The four-masted steamer *Maruwaru* is still ashore two miles east of the Kiutan Lightship and each tide seems to drive her further up. Four tugs and several lighters have been and are still busily at work upon her, but although she has been lightened considerably, it was doubtful yesterday as to whether she would get off on the night tide. She will probably require to discharge her whole cargo before it will be possible to tow her off."

TELEGRAMS have been received by the military authorities in Hongkong stating that the coast fort has been broken on board the transport steamer *Dunera*. Several men seem to have been affected and two have been left at Colombo. The *Dunera* is bringing relief to Hongkong and was expected to arrive on the 14th inst. It is possible that in view of disease being on the vessel she may be detained at Singapore until the outbreak has been quelled and the vessel released from quarantine.

ON Wednesday Sergeant Grant arrested D. R. Captain, proprietor of the general dealers store, Company of Hollybrook Road, and D. M. Bhesania, an assistant in the store, on a warrant charging them with obtaining goods and money to the value of \$1,775.40 under false pretences from Messrs. Cooper and Co. of 132 Wellington Street, merchants. This morning they were placed before Mr. C. D. Melbourne, and after evidence of the arrest was taken, the case was remanded till the 14th inst.

THE Manila *Cablenews* says:—"One of the most unprovoked murders that has occurred in the Philippines since the American occupation, took place on Thanksgiving night in the city of Cebu when First Lieutenant Pedrito of the constabulary wantonly shot and killed a Filipino policeman at that city. The murderer has been arrested, dismissed from the Constabulary, and will be prosecuted to the fullest extent of the law, with the assistance of the constabulary."

THE *S. P. Press*, of 2nd inst., says:—"The Russian battleship *Tyazheliy* returned to the Roads this morning from Tsingtau where she went to coal. It is stated that there is some discontent amongst the crew regarding the salt meat supplied them. The men allege it to be unfit for human consumption, and yesterday a couple of petty officers went to the Health Office and asked that the Health Officer examine the meat. They were told they could not do this and advised them to go to a private doctor, and this is stated to have been done."

HONGKONG'S *Daily Mail* says:—"That some 300 horses and cattle released by the Russians in Sulu, Saghalien are wandering over the country without shelter and cannot hope to survive this winter. The Japanese authorities are making strenuous efforts to save some of them, and it is hoped that about one-third of them will be preserved."

THE *Strait Times*, of 28th ult., says:—"The s.s. *Lat. Song*, Capt. Lake, cleared a noon yesterday for Hongkong with about 600 Chinese passengers. Early this morning she returned to the roads and reported that she had put back owing to smoke having been discovered issuing from the hold. It is supposed that the cargo is on fire. Later in the day she signalled for lighters and a steam launch to come alongside. Later, we learn that a slight fire broke out in the No. 4 hold, but was got under without difficulty. Some cargo in the hold has been damaged by water."

THE captain of the s.s. *Formosa* was summoned before Mr. F. A. Hasland on Friday for leaving port with passengers on board in excess of the number entered on his port clearance. P.C. 33 informed His Worship that the vessel's clearance was made out on the 8th November, and she left on the following day with 63 passengers in excess of the number shown in her clearance. His Worship said he had seen the Harbour Master and learned from him that the Harbour office was closed on the date of the vessel's departure, that day being a public holiday. Under these circumstances he would discharge the defendant with a caution.

AT Winnipeg last month an eight-year-old boy playfully pointed a loaded gun at his mother, when the weapon was discharged and she was instantly killed. Mr. J. A. Bouni had been on shooting, and upon returning home walked into the house and pointed the gun at his mother near the door, neglecting to extract the cartridges from it. His little son noticed the gun and picking it up, as he was in the habit of doing, pointed it at his mother, who was approaching the house, making an attempt to frighten her. When she was about eight yards from the door the gun went off, the charge—No. 3 shot—piercing the unfortunate woman's head on the right side and entering the brain, killing her instantly.

ON Thursday Inspector Langley charged 12 Japanese women with stowing away on the s.s. *Suffragette* at Sasebo, Japan, and thus obtaining passages from that port to Hongkong without the permission of the captain or officers, and without paying for the same. Five Japanese men were also charged with aiding and abetting the women in so stowing away. The women were convicted, and judgment reserved, the case of the men was adjourned, bail being allowed in the sum of \$500 each. The women claimed that their friends in Japan handed over to the Chinese boatwain of the *Suffragette* \$480 for passage money, and immediately on arrival in Hongkong the boatwain absconded. A warrant was issued for his arrest.

In summary jurisdiction on Thursday, His Honour Mr. A. G. Wise, Puisne Judge presiding, Ching Kwai Wan, a Chinese medical practitioner, charged with obtaining the recovery of 500 lbs. being balance due for goods sold and delivered. Mr. F. X. d'Almeida, C.A. appeared for the plaintiff, and Mr. R. A. Harding for the defendant. There was a cross suit between the parties for a sum of \$500 money alleged to have been lent by defendant to plaintiff in the first suit. Mr. d'Almeida said the goods sold were pills for seasickness, but could not say if they were for causing that lady or preventing her curing it. His Honour wanted to know if the pills had been tested and reported the results, but they could not be ascertained. Mr. d'Almeida said: "regards the counter-claim it was not money paid as a loan but as part payment for the pills, the bill for which amounted to \$150, and the \$50 was paid in the afternoon of the day on which the purchase was made. The case is proceeding."

ON Wednesday, about 9 o'clock, an Indian constable on duty near the Police Building saw a constable following a coolie, who was carrying a box, and himself intervened, proceeded to watch the actions of the coolie. He then saw the coolie, who, he subsequently ascertained, was a coolie in the employ of Messrs. Ristard and Company, removing the brass name-plate belonging to Messrs. Sheehan, Tomes and Company, and which was screwed to the grate wall outside the latter's office. The brass screws had been removed and the coolie was being taken to the Police Station. The constable saw him while he made for the latter's office, and he dropped the plate and bolted. He ran into the arms of a Chinese constable, and the Indian coming up, the man was arrested and taken to the station, where, on searching him, two of the brass screws which had held the plate to the wall were found on his person. The charge was proved, and the culprit was convicted and sentenced to three weeks' hard labour and six hours' stocks.

ON taking his seat in Original Jurisdiction on Saturday, His Lordship said, before calling on the case set for hearing, he had some remarks to make, and he desired to make them publicly, and they might be publicly known. His Lordship then said that he had received this morning a letter from a party or parties, professing to be interested in an action in which he, recently, gave judgment, in which the plaintiff complained that he had been unable to get a copy of that judgment, but that, of course, was due to the way in which law reports were published in this Colony, which was well known to the public and to the profession. But, as they no doubt knew, he was completing arrangements for a verbatim report of all judgments to be delivered; the arrangement to commence with the New Year. The writer of that letter then proceeded to criticize that judgment, but of that he would say nothing further, than that such action was most improper; and he would only say, the letter in question to the counsel engaged in the case referred to who would no doubt make proper representations to his client.

An amusing story was unfolded at the Magistrate's on Wednesday, when two Chinese women were charged with inflicting a beating on a Chinese man, who was carrying a box, and himself intervened, proceeded to watch the actions of the coolie. He then saw the coolie, who, he subsequently ascertained, was a coolie in the employ of Messrs. Ristard and Company, removing the brass name-plate belonging to Messrs. Sheehan, Tomes and Company, and which was screwed to the grate wall outside the latter's office. The brass screws had been removed and the coolie was being taken to the Police Station. The constable saw him while he made for the latter's office, and he dropped the plate and bolted. He ran into the arms of a Chinese constable, and the Indian coming up, the man was arrested and taken to the station, where, on searching him, two of the brass screws which had held the plate to the wall were found on his person. The charge was proved, and the culprit was convicted and sentenced to three weeks' hard labour and six hours' stocks.

THE following returns of the average amount of bank notes in circulation, and of specie in reserve in Hongkong, during the month ended 30th ult., as certified by the managers of the respective banks, are published in the *Gazette*:

Banks.	Average Amount.	Specie in Reserve.
Chartered Bank of India, Australia and China, Limited	\$3,664,586	\$2,500,000
Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation	13,723,957	9,000,000
National Bank of China, Limited	68,015	40,000
Total	\$17,456,558	\$11,540,000

WE regret to have to announce the death of Mr. Leclan M. Kerr, superintendent shipwright at Kowloon Dock, which will take place on Tuesday at his residence in the Kowloon Dock quarters at the early age of 4

(ESTABLISHED 1861)

光緒三十一年十一月十三日

六拜禮

號九月二十英港香

\$30 PER ANNUM.
SINGLE COPY, 10 CENTS

YOKOHAMA THE

YOKOHAMA SPECIE BANK, LIMITED
ESTABLISHED 1880.

CAPITAL SUBSCRIBED	Yen 24,000,000
CAPITAL PAID-UP	18,000,000
CAPITAL UNCALLED	6,000,000
RESERVE FUND	9,000,000

Head Office—YOKOHAMA.

Branches and Agencies.

TOKIO.	HONOLULU.
NAGASAKI.	SHANGHAI.
LYONS.	NEWCHOWANG.
SAN FRANCISCO.	MUKDEN.
BOMBAY.	PORT ARTHUR.
TIENTSIN.	CHEFOO.
PEKING.	DALNY.
Kobe.	TIE-LING.
LONDON.	OSAKA.
NEW YORK.	

LONDON BANKERS:
THE LONDON JOINT STOCK BANK, LD.
PARIS' BANK, LD.
THE UNION OF LONDON AND
SMITHS BANK, LD.

HONGKONG BRANCH:—INTEREST ALLOWED
On Current Account at the rate of 2 per cent
per Annum on the Daily Balance.
On Fixed deposits for 12 months at 5 per cent.

3 " 3 "
TAKEO TAKAMICHI

Hongkong, 25th September, 1905. [30]

Manager.

THE CHARTERED BANK OF INDIA.
AUSTRALIA AND CHINA.

INCORPORATED BY ROYAL CHARTER, 1853.
HEAD OFFICE—LONDON.

CAPITAL PAID-UP.....£800,000
RESERVE LIABILITY OF SHAREHOLDERS.....£800,000
RESERVE FUND.....£875,000

INTEREST ALLOWED ON CURRENT
ACCOUNTS at the Rate of 2 per cent. per
annum on the Daily Balance.

On Fixed Deposits for 12 months, 4 per cent.,
" " " 6 " " 3 " "

" " " 3 " " 24 " "
 T. P. COCHRANE
 Manager.
 Hongkong, 18th May, 1905. [24]

INTERNATIONAL BANKING CORPORATION.
ISCAL AGENTS OF THE UNITED STATES
IN CHINA, THE PHILIPPINE ISLANDS AND
THE REPUBLIC OF PANAMA.

CAPITAL AND SURPLUS
 AUTHORIZED:.....GOLD \$10,000,000
 CAPITAL PAID UPGOLD \$ 3,250,000
 RESERVE FUNDGOLD \$ 3,250,000

HEAD OFFICE:
NEW YORK.
LONDON OFFICE:
THREADNEEDLE HOUSE, E.C.
LONDON BANKERS:
NATIONAL PROVINCIAL BANK OF
ENGLAND, LIMITED.
BRANCHES OF LONDON AND SMITH'S BANK, LTD.
BRITISH LINEN COMPANY BANK.
BRANCHES AND AGENTS ALL OVER THE
WORLD.

THE Corporation transacts every Description
 of Banking and Exchange Business,
 receives Money in Current Account and ac-
 cepts Fixed Deposits at the following rates:—
 For 12 months 4½ per cent. per annum.
 6 " 4 " " "
 3 " 3 " " "

H. PINCKNEY,
 Manager.
 69, Queen's Road Central,
 Hongkong, 19th September, 1905. [25]

ions.

COALS.

HEAD OFFICE:—1, SURUGA-CHO, TOKYO.
LONDON BRANCH:—34, LIME STREET, E.C.
HONGKONG BRANCH:—PRINCE'S BUILDINGS, ICE HOUSE STREET.

WHEN YOU SEND YOUR "BOY" FOR
Sh Australian Butter
 gets the "Princess" brand, the best made in Australia.
 wrapper of every pat bears our name and address.

HONGKONG AND CANTON

<p>September, 1905.</p>	<p>1948</p>
<p>SURANCE. MAN FIRE INSUR- ANY OF HAMBURG. Insured AGENTS of the above are prepared to accept First and CHINESE RISKS at</p>	<p>COLD STORAGE. THE HONGKONG ICE COMPANY, LTD., have now 40,000 Cubic feet of COLD STORAGE available at EAST POINT. Stores will be Open at 10 A.M. and 4 P.M. daily, Sunday excepted, to receive and deliver perishable goods.</p>
<p>SIEMSEN & Co. May, 1895. (9)</p>	<p>WM. PARLANE, Manager. Hongkong, and elsewhere.</p>

THE HONGKONG ICE COMPANY.

have now 40,000 Cubic feet of
PRAGE available at EAST POINT.
be Open at 10 A.M. and 4 P.M.
y excepted, to receive and deliver
oods.

WM. PARLANE,
Manager.

32nd June, 1905. (675

**PENINSULAR AND ORIENTAL
STEAM NAVIGATION COMPANY.**

LANE, CRAWFORD & CO

HARDWARE DEPARTMENT.

LANE, CRAWFORD & CO.
Hongkong, 10th October, 1927.

JOHN PETRINO & CO.

SOLE AGENTS

HE CHINA TRADERS' INSURANCE COMPANY, LIMITED.
NOTICE TO SHAREHOLDERS.

EQUITABLE LIFE ASSURANCE SOCIETY.
BY TELEGRAPH.

EQUITABLE LIFE ASSURANCE SOCIETY.
By TELEGRAPH.

AFTER EXAMINATION, the Chartered
 Accountants have further certified to the
 effect of the **AMERICAN LIFE ASSURANCE SOCIETY** of the United States
 that the Society has a surplus of 67 millions
 that the Society's financial position is
 unquestionable.

Such manner as it shall think most bene-
 ficial to the Society.

Should the Resolution be passed by the re-
 quired majority it will be submitted for con-
 firmation as a Special Resolution to a second
 Extraordinary Meeting which will be subse-
 quently convened.

Dated the third day of December, 1909.
 By Order of the Board.
 W. J. SAUNDERS,

SECRETARY.

1127
 1011

**If it's power
you want.**

BOVRIL

FIRE EXTINGUISHER

THE ORIENTAL CONSTRUCTION COMPANY
CONSULTING AND SUPERVISING ENGINEERS AND CONTRACTORS,
HONGKONG, SHANGHAI AND MANILA.

IN
RAILWAYS, MINES, WATER SUPPLIES,
REINFORCED CONCRETE, CONCRETE PILES
ALEXANDRA BUILDINGS,
HONGKONG.
Hongkong, 12th July, 1905.

HONGKONG HOTEL

Military Band during dinner on Saturday Nights.

A. F. DAVIES,
Acting Manager.
[2014]
Hongkong, 7th February, 1905.

<p>VICTORIA HOTEL, <i>SHAMEEN, CANTON.</i> ON THE BRITISH CONCESSION.</p>	<p>MACAO HOTEL <i>MACAO, CHINA,</i> IN THE CENTRE OF THE PRAIA GRANDE.</p>
--	---

BOTH HOTELS UNDER EXPERIENCED EUROPEAN MANAGEMENT.

EVERY COMFORT AND CONVENIENCE FOR RESIDENTS AND
TOURISTS.

LUNKET'S GAP, the PEAK, near the TRAM TERMINUS. Tel. 56
For Terms, &c., apply to the

Hongkong, and July, 1900. MANAGER.
 Telegraphic Address: 125 1/2
CONNAUGHT HOTEL. Telephone
 HONGKONG. No. 170.

FIRST-CLASS FAMILY AND COMMERCIAL HOTEL, situated near the BANKS,
PRINCIPAL OFFICES, and in the MAIN STREET.

Large and lofty Rooms, Elegantly Furnished.
Hydraulic Elevator.
Hot and Cold Water Baths and Shower Baths.
Launch Service for Guests.

Flash Water Lavatories.
Excellent Cuisine and Wines.
Under European Management.

FOR HOTEL COMFORT AND THE BEST BILLIARDS
GO TO THE

KOWLOON HOTEL.

RO WELDON, Proprietor and Manager. 129

Intimations.

POWELL'S GRAND X'MAS BAZAAR NOW OPEN.

Thousands of
TOYS, GAMES, ETC.

DOLLS,

75 cts. to \$28.50 each.

Rubber Dolls, Rag Dolls, Woollen Dolls, Squeaking Dolls, Dressed Dolls, Undressed Dolls, Talking Dolls, and Walking Dolls.

ANIMALS GALORE.

Monkeys, Gorillas, Tigers, Leopards, Panthers, Bears, Wolves, Foxes, Lions, Hippopotami, Rhinoceros, Camels, Dromedaries, Bulldogs, Terriers, Dogs with long tails, Logs with short tails, Oats, Beavers, Elephants, Squirrels, &c., &c.

TOYS

Every conceivable kind of Toy procurable.

A Splendid Selection,
from 20 cents to \$50 each.

CRICKET SETS.
ROCKING HORSES.
HOBBY HORSES.
MAIL CARTS.

DOLLS' PERAMBULATORS.
DOLLS' HOUSES.
DOLLS' TEA SETS.

DOLLS' FURNITURE.

All the Newest

GAMES,

60 cents to \$2.50 each.

Pit, Kick, Hooker Ball, Got-a-head, Cockerant Throwing, Annihilation, Table Croquet, The Rescue, The Bubbler, Union Jack, Jump a little Nag Tail, Stock Exchange, Blockade Runners, British Empire, Trip to the Continent, Railway Races, &c., &c.

Creating

Roars of Laughter.

CHRISTMAS TREE
ORNAMENTS
Innumerable.

LUCKY TUBS containing
Toys for Children's Parties.

Ladies and Gentlemen are cordially
invited to bring the Children in
to spend half an hour in

POWELL'S
BAZAAR

Hongkong, 9th December, 1905.

Intimations.

THE BRIGHT SIDE
of life. It is a feeling common to the majority of us that we do not get quite the amount of happiness we are entitled to. Among the countless things which tend to make us more or less miserable ill health takes first place. Haunted More said that sin was generally to be attributed to biliousness. No doubt a crippled liver with the resulting impure blood, is the cause of more mental gloom than any other single thing. And who can reckon up the fearful aggregate of pain, loss and fear arising from the many ailments and diseases which are familiar to mankind, like a vast cloud it hangs over a multitude no one can number. You can see these people everywhere. For their life can scarcely be said to have any "bright side" at all. Hence the eagerness with which they search for relief and cure. Remedies like

WAMPOLE'S PREPARATION have not attained their high position in the confidence of the people by bald assertions and boasting advertisements. They are obliged to win it by doing actually what is claimed for them. That this remedy deserves its reputation is conceded. It is palatable as honey and contains the nutritive and curative properties of Pure Cod Liver Oil, combined with the Compound Syrup of Hypophosphites and the Extracts of Malt and Wild Cherry. Nothing has such a record of success in Scrofula, Anemia, Throat and Lung Troubles, and emanating complaints and disorders, that tend to undermine the foundations of strength and vigour. Its use helps to show life's brighter side. Dr. H. L. Reddy, B. A., M. D., L. R. C. S., Edinburgh—L. R. C. P., London—Physician Woman's Hospital—Professor University of Bishops College, Canada, says: "I have much pleasure in stating that I have used it in cases of debility and have found it to be a very valuable remedy as well as pleasing to take." You can take it with the assurance of getting well. It never disappoints. Sold by all chemists.

79]

A. CHAZALON & CO.

6, QUEEN'S ROAD CENTRAL.

NOTED for their WINES, SPIRITS and PROVISIONS of which they have always a large assortment in stock.

The oldest established EUROPEAN BAKERS in the Colony.

Hongkong, 30th September, 1905. [978]

HOME-GOING SOLDIERS.

BOOKS, MAGAZINES, etc., for the use of SOLDIERS and their FAMILIES returning home by the transport "DUNERA," will be gladly received by the Chaplain. Address: Room 3, Top Floor, Alexandra Buildings, or a Post Card will ensure their being sent for.

Hongkong, 8th December, 1905. [1221]

DANCING LESSONS.

MR. J. H. PIDGEON begs to inform the general public that he is now prepared to accept pupils for individual or class tuition.

TERMS MODERATE.

For further particulars, apply to—

J. H. PIDGEON,
No. 11, Caine Road.
Hongkong, 1st December, 1905. [1182]

"NOTHING BETTER."

MACLAREN'S CREAM CHEESE not merely "A Better" Cheese, but a "Perfect Cheese."

To be had in air tight tins to preserve its freshness and good flavour.

Special rates to Hotels, Clubs, Boarding-houses, Messes, and wholesale dealers.

H. RUTTONJEE,
Sole Agents for China.
Hongkong, 7th December, 1905. [158]

HONGKONG HIGH-LEVEL TRAMWAYS COMPANY, LIMITED, IN LIQUIDATION.

TIME TABLE.

WEEK DAYS.
7.00 a.m. to 7.30 a.m. ... Every 30 minutes.
7.30 a.m. to 8.00 a.m. ... Every 10 minutes.
8.00 a.m. to 8.30 a.m. ... Every 15 minutes.
8.30 a.m. to 9.00 a.m. ... Every 10 minutes.
9.00 a.m. to 9.30 a.m. ... Every 15 minutes.
9.30 a.m. to 10.00 a.m. ... Every 10 minutes.
10.00 a.m. to 10.30 a.m. ... Every 15 minutes.
10.30 a.m. to 11.00 a.m. ... Every 10 minutes.
11.00 a.m. to 11.30 a.m. ... Every 15 minutes.
11.30 a.m. to 12.00 p.m. ... Every 10 minutes.
12.00 p.m. to 12.30 p.m. ... Every 15 minutes.
12.30 p.m. to 1.00 p.m. ... Every 10 minutes.
1.00 p.m. to 1.30 p.m. ... Every 15 minutes.
1.30 p.m. to 2.00 p.m. ... Every 10 minutes.
2.00 p.m. to 2.30 p.m. ... Every 15 minutes.
2.30 p.m. to 3.00 p.m. ... Every 10 minutes.
3.00 p.m. to 3.30 p.m. ... Every 15 minutes.
3.30 p.m. to 4.00 p.m. ... Every 10 minutes.
4.00 p.m. to 4.30 p.m. ... Every 15 minutes.

NIGHT CARS.
8.45 p.m. and 9 p.m., 9.45 p.m. to 11.15 p.m. every half hour.

SUNDAYS.

8.00 a.m. to 9.00 a.m. ... Every 15 minutes.
9.00 a.m. to 9.30 a.m. ... Every 30 minutes.
9.30 a.m. to 10.30 a.m. ... Every 15 minutes.
10.30 a.m. to 11.00 a.m. ... Every 10 minutes.
11.00 a.m. to 12.00 p.m. ... Every 10 minutes.
12.00 p.m. to 1.00 p.m. ... Every 10 minutes.
1.00 p.m. to 2.00 p.m. ... Every 10 minutes.
2.00 p.m. to 3.00 p.m. ... Every 10 minutes.
3.00 p.m. to 4.00 p.m. ... Every 10 minutes.
4.00 p.m. to 5.00 p.m. ... Every 10 minutes.

NIGHT CARS as on Week Days.

SATURDAYS.

Extra cars at 11.30 and 11.45 p.m.

SPECIAL CARS by Arrangement at the Company's Office, ALEXANDRA BUILDING, DES VEXES ROAD CENTRAL.

JOHN D. HUMPHREYS & SON, Liquidators.

Hongkong, 13th July, 1905. [65]

THE LAND OF GOING-TO-BE.

There's a wonderful land where the waters play
On a white, bright strand that is far away;
And the ripples sing as they kiss the shore
A song that is sweet as a dream of yore;
And the pleasant paths forever are trod
By the coast who smile to the smile of God.
As they patiently wait by the silvery strand
For voyagers borne from the earthly land;

Voyagers burdened
By the weight of care—
Waiting to meet—
And to greet them there;

And that haven of peace my soul shall see,
For it is the Land of Going-to-Be.

My course is uncharted; the storms beat high,
And the voice of the wind is an eerie sigh;
My compass is broken; my sails are torn,
And hither and thither my bark is borne.
Yet I know right well that the Pilot knows
The fondering course that my shallop goes,
And still in my dreams the haven I see
And hear the promise it waits for me:

Sails a-flutter,
And shattered the mast,
I hail anchor safe,
With the voyage past,

All safe from the rage of the mist-mantled sea,
In the beautiful Land of Going-to-Be.

There are loved whom I lost in a day that is gone,
But they stand on that strand in the light of the dawn,
And still through the shadows they whisper to me—
"Come over, come over the billowy sea,
For the light of His smile is the light of our day,
And the song in our hearts is an anthem of praise."

And ever, forever, storm-beaten and tossed,
I know that my shallop shall never be lost;
Dismasted, dismantled,
And torn by the blast,
It shall ride on the tide
Of the haven at last.

For over the spume of the storm-beaten sea,
I ride to the Land of the Going-to-Be.

—By A. J. Waterhouse in S. F. Chronicle.

THE LIFE OF PEARLS.

Do pearls age? This question, of interest to most ladies, has arisen in connection with a necklace which originally belonged to Madame Thiers, and was bequeathed by her husband, the famous statesman, to the Louvre, where it occupies a particularly remarkable place from the historical or artistic point of view, has a high intrinsic value. It comprises 145 pearls, weighing in all 524 carats, and would probably fetch about £24,000. The jewels have been 16 ft in their case, from year's end to year's end, and it was thought that they were losing their lustre, someone suggested to M. Dossé, Thiers's sister-in-law and executrix, that it would be advisable to sell the necklace and devote the proceeds to the purchase of some work of art for the improvement of the Louvre collection. M. Dossé replied that she did not feel justified in infringing her brother-in-law's wishes. The necklace will consequently remain in the Louvre, whether it loses its value or not. Probably it will be left to our great-grandchildren to ascertain the result of what can only be called a prolonged experiment. In this light its retention in the National Museum is regarded by M. Chaumet, one of the principal Parisian authorities on pearls. Their lease of life is variable, he says. "There are, in India and China, pearls which are known to be several centuries old, and are still brilliant, but this is due to their having been carefully kept in an even temperature. A pearl exposed to variations of heat and light is sure to suffer. It consists, as every one is aware, of thin layers of a substance secreted by a certain kind of oyster; but it is less generally known that this substance is deposited in crystals (a fact discovered through examination by polarized light), so that the pearl is just as much crystallized as the diamond to be classed as a crystal. The lustre of a pearl is made up of the combination of the varying colours of its layers of crystals, and would naturally be altered by any alteration of the outer layer. This modification may be caused, M. Chaumet says, by heat, light, electricity and other agents. A lady who, after wearing a pearl necklace at a dance, returns home and carelessly lays the ornament on the cold marble of a tabletop runs considerable risk of spoiling the jewels by causing a contraction or expansion of the layers. Moreover, it is common knowledge that pearls blacken after contact with the body of some wearers. No one knows how long a pearl may preserve its beauty under favourable conditions, but it is clear from what M. Chaumet says that this beautiful stone or crystal requires much more careful treatment than any other.—Morning Post.

WHITAKER WRIGHT'S PALACE.

WITHDRAWN FROM SALE AT £35,000.

The whole of the beautiful freehold estate known as Lea Park, Willey, formerly belonging to the late Mr. Whitaker Wright, was on October 26, by the order of the court, put up for auction, in fifty lots, at the Borough Hall, Godalming.

"There will be new owners for the whole of the property before long," declared the auctioneer, Mr. Holland Peck, of Messrs. Hampton and Sons, at the outset. Four hours later over £70,000 had changed hands; but the principal lot, the residential estate, with its magic submerged room and wonderful ballroom, still remained in the hands of the Court of Chancery, having been withdrawn when the bidding stopped at £35,000.

While speaking in the highest terms of the mansion standing within its 435 acres of gardens, woodlands, and plantations, with its lovely chain of lakes, the auctioneer remarked that some persons might have gathered the idea from certain newspaper articles that the building was equal in size to a couple of Buckingham Palaces, with Sandringham thrown in, and that Lake Como was in the grounds.

The electric light fittings as described, however, give an indication of the lavish expenditure of the late owner of the property. They were specially designed by a skilled artist, and cost an enormous sum of money.

Around the estate was a four-mile massive stone wall, built at a cost of £35,000. The ballroom was a masterpiece, and the stables were second to none in England. The possessor would have his boating, fishing, and golfing, and would be among scenery that the prosaic auctioneer could not trust himself to speak of.

It was the most magnificent chance, he declared, that had ever occurred in the history of mankind, and the property was just suited for what was urgently needed in this country, a very high class hotel, a Carlton in the country.

"Twenty-five thousand pounds" offered one of the audience of 400 who were packed in the hall.

"Thank goodness, the stabling's paid for already," the auctioneer announced joyfully. At £35,000 there was an ominous pause, and the property was withdrawn. "Some of the small cottages, which may be converted into work-shops and 'bolt holes,' were sold at remarkably high prices, but there was little competition for larger lots, and the prices obtained generally were not good."

Notices of Firms.

THE EQUITABLE LIFE ASSURANCE SOCIETY OF THE UNITED STATES.

I HAVE this day appointed Messrs. SHEWAN, TOMES & CO., GENERAL MANAGERS for Hongkong for the above Society, in place of Mr. F. KIENE, whose engagement has been terminated.

J. T. HAMILTON,
General Manager for the East.
Hongkong, 14th November, 1905. [1119]

OCEAN ACCIDENT AND GUARANTEE CORPORATION, LTD.

Head Office: Moorgate St., London.

I HAVE this day appointed Messrs. SHEWAN, TOMES & CO., AGENTS for the above Corporation, in place of Mr. F. KIENE, whose engagement has been terminated.

J. T. HAMILTON,
Manager for the East.
Hongkong, 14th November, 1905. [1120]

For Sale.

FOR SALE.

VALUABLE RIVER FRONT PROPERTY, IN CANTON, near Electric Light Company's Power House. Over 150 feet River Frontage.

Apply at—
144, SHAMEEN, CANTON.
December 8th, 1905. [1214]

FOR RENT OR SALE.

RESIDENCE on the CENTRAL AVENUE, SHAMEEN, CANTON. Occupies a half lot. Well located and suitable for a Business Firm. EIGHT LARGE ROOMS, the usual Small Rooms and Two-storied Servants' Quarters.

Apply to—
"T. R."
C/o China Mail,
Hongkong. [1215]

To Let.

TO LET.

COMFORTABLE APARTMENTS FOR GENTLEMEN.

1 LARGE DOUBLE ROOM and 1 SINGLE ROOM, Central Position.

Apply at—
9, ICE HOUSE ROAD.
Hongkong, 25th November, 1905. [1161]

TO LET.

NO. 4, CLIFTON GARDENS, Conduit Road.

Apply to—
THE HONGKONG LAND INVESTMENT & AGENCY CO., LD.
Hongkong, 30th October, 1905. [1176]

TO LET.

NOS. 10 & 15, KNUITSFORD TERRACE, KOWLOON.

Apply to—
THE HONGKONG LAND INVESTMENT & AGENCY CO., LD.
Hongkong, 1st December, 1905. [1177]

TO LET.

GODOWN No. 3, NEW PRAYA, Kennedy Town.

Apply to—
THE HONGKONG LAND INVESTMENT & AGENCY CO., LD.
Hongkong, 27th June, 1905. [692]

TO LET.

A BUILDING at CAUSEWAY BAY, formerly in occupation of the Steam Laundry Co., Ltd.

No. 17, WONG-NEI-CHONG ROAD, No. 5, CLIFTON GARDENS, Conduit Road.

No. 1, RIFON TERRACE.

FLATS in MORETON TERRACE, facing Polo Ground.

OFFICES in course of erection, CONNAUGHT ROAD (near BLAKE PIER).

GODOWNS: PRAYA EAST.

Apply to—
THE HONGKONG LAND INVESTMENT & AGENCY CO., LD.
Hongkong, 2nd December, 1905. [169]

GOVERNMENT NOTIFICATION.

PARTICULARS AND CONDITIONS of the letting by Public Auction Sale, to be held on MONDAY, the 11th day of December, 1905, at 3 P.M., on the Sites by Order of His Excellency the Governor, of EIGHT LOTS OF CROWN LAND, at Kau U Fong in the Colony of Hongkong, for a term of 75 years with the option of renewal at a CROWN RENT to be fixed by the Surveyor of His Majesty the KING, for one further term of 75 years.

PARTICULARS OF THE LOTS.

No. of Sale.	Registry No.	LOCALITY.	Boundary Measurements.				Contents in square feet.	Annual Rent.	Upset Price.
			N.W.	S.E.	N.E.	S.W.			
1	Inland Lot No. 1747	Kau U Fong	feet, 45'2"	feet, 44'4"	feet, 82'	feet, 15'9"	483	8	3,381
2	Do.	Do.	feet, 62'8"	feet, 58'5"	feet, 46'3"	feet, 69'8"	3,363	54	23,541
3	Do.	Do.	feet, 58'0"	feet, 56'0"	feet, 45'0"	feet, 45'0"	2,512	41	18,494
4	Do.	Do.	feet, 59'0"	feet, 59'0"	feet, 45'0"	feet, 45'0"	2,568	42	18,666
5	Do.	Do.	feet, 59'0"	feet, 59'0"	feet, 45'0"	feet, 45'0"	2,568	42	18,666
6	Do.	Do.	feet, 54'0"	feet, 54'0"	feet, 8'0"	feet, 8'0"	4,459	18	9,512
7	Do.	Do.	feet, 40'0"	feet, 40'0"	feet, 11'0"	feet, 11'0"	4,476	18	9,533
8	Do.	Do.	feet, 8'0"	feet, 5'0"	feet, 45'0"	feet, 45'0"	306	4	2,142

Hongkong, 2nd December, 1905. [1184]

Hotels.

KING EDWARD HOTEL.

A HIGH CLASS PRIVATE HOTEL.

LADIES' AFTERNOON TEA-ROOMS.
PRIVATE BAR and BILLIARD-ROOMS.
HOT and COLD WATER throughout.
ELECTRICALLY LIGHTED. ELECTRIC FANS (if required).
ELECTRIC PASSENGER ELEVATOR to each floor.
TABLE D'HOTE at separate tables.
For Terms, &c., apply to the—
MANAGER.
Hongkong, 4th December, 1905. [1195]

OCCIDENTAL HOTEL.

EXCELLENT CUISINE.

MODERATE PRICES.

ELECTRIC FANS
TO ORDER IN
EVERY ROOM.

EUROPEAN MANAGEMENT

ELGIN ROAD, KOWLOON.
Hongkong, 14th May, 1905. [127]

ORIENTAL HOTEL, MACAO.

A FIRST CLASS HOTEL situated in the Centre of Praya Grande with splendid view of the Harbour.

LARGE AND LOFTY ROOMS,
Elegantly Furnished.

EXCELLENT CUISINE.

WINES AND SPIRITS of the best quality.

BILLIARD TABLE, the best in the Far East.

EVERY COMFORT FOR RESIDENTS AND TOURISTS.

For Terms, &c., apply to—
THE MANAGER.
Macao, 16th October, 1905. [1880]

Auctions.

PUBLIC AUCTION.

THE Undersigned have received instructions from the MILITARY AUTHORITIES, to sell by

PUBLIC AUCTION,
ON
MONDAY,
the 11th December, 1905, at 11 A.M., at King's Park, Kowloon,

3 CORRUGATED IRON BUILDINGS, the MATSHEDS now standing, a quantity of BARBED WIRE,

AND
THE REMNANTS OF FURNITURE, &c., &c., &c., lately used by the Russian interned Sailors.

TERMS—As usual.

HUGHES & HOUGH,
Government Auctioneers.
Hongkong, 5th December, 1905. [1193]

PUBLIC AUCTION.

THE Undersigned have received instructions to sell by

PUBLIC AUCTION,
FOR ACCOUNT OF THE CONCERNED,
ON
MONDAY,

the 11th December, 1905, at 2.30 P.M., at their Sale Rooms, No. 8, Des Vexes Road, corner of Ice House Street,

A LARGE ASSORTMENT OF JAPANESE CURIOS,

Comprising—
OLD SATSUMA VASES, INCENSE BURNERS, WALL PLATES, GOLD and SILVER CLOISONNE WARE, TEA SETS, ACQUIRED WARE, SILK EMBROIDERIES, OLD BRONZES, WALL HANGINGS, KAKEMONOS, IVORY ORNAMENTS, &c., &c., &c.

Catalogues will be issued.

TERMS—As usual.

HUGHES & HOUGH,
Auctioneers.
Hongkong, 6th December, 1905. [1201]

GOVERNMENT NOTIFICATION.

PARTICULARS AND CONDITIONS of the letting by Public Auction Sale, to be held on MONDAY, the 11th day of December, 1905, at 3 P.M., on the Sites by Order of His Excellency the Governor, of EIGHT LOTS OF CROWN LAND, at Kau U Fong in the Colony of Hongkong, for a term of 75 years with the option of renewal at a CROWN RENT to be fixed by the Surveyor of His Majesty the KING, for one further term of 75 years.

TELEGRAMS.

"HONGKONG TELEGRAPH" SERVICE.

FREE FIGHT AT SHANGHAI

BETWEEN POLICE AND NATIVE RUNNERS.

DETENTION OF FEMALE WITNESSES.

(From Our Own Correspondent.)

Shanghai, 9th Dec., 1905.
11.45 a.m.

A free fight took place at Shanghai yesterday between the police of the Mixed Court and the native runners. The disturbance originated from an alleged grievance due to the detention as prisoners of a number of female witnesses who are required in connection with cases that have been remanded by the Magistrates.

An attempt was made to remove, by force, nineteen women from the custody of the police. The attempt failed.

Meetings of the native guilds and of the Chamber of Commerce will be held to-day, at which resolutions will be submitted in support of the correctness of the Magistrates' action.

[Reuter's.]

Labuan.

SIR JOHN ANDERSON GOVERNOR.
LONDON, 7th December.

The appointment of Sir John Anderson as Governor of Labuan, an addition to the Straits Government, and an agreement for a British Resident to control the administration of Brunei, are officially announced.

[A recent issue of the *British North Borneo Herald* states:—We have to announce that, after the close of the present year, the Colonial Office will resume direct responsibility for the administration of the Crown Colony of Labuan, and the rule of the Chartered Company of British North Borneo will cease. The administration thereof will be transferred to the Governor of the Straits Settlements. On the 1st January, Sir John Anderson will take the oath of office in Labuan as Governor and will, we understand, appoint Mr. MacArthur, who lately acted as British Consul for Brunei, &c., his chief officer for the future charge of the Colony. His step has been thought necessary by the Imperial Government, we are informed, on grounds of Imperial policy. The changed status of Singapore, its conversion into an Imperial naval base, of which the expropriation of the Tanjong Pagar Dock Company's property is one outward and visible sign, the growing importance of Labuan as a coaling and cable station, and the existing conditions in the neighbouring Sultanate of Brunei, have all, we believe, been essential factors in determining this step.

From the point of view of British North Borneo, we hail this change with great satisfaction. The closer proximity of the Straits administration and the impending changes for the better in that chaotic country, Brunei, cannot but prove of lasting benefit to this State. More than that—the finances of the Colony during the sixteen years' administration by the Chartered Company have only on five occasions shown an equilibrium and something more; the remaining eleven years have shown deficits which have had to be met out of the resources of the Chartered Company. The net deficit up to the end of 1904 totals \$1,850,000, and that for this year, will approximate \$600,000. This is a sum of money which the Chartered Company can ill spare, and however much from a sentimental point of view the severance of the administration may be regretted by some, it has long been felt by others that since the real *raison d'être* of its union with this State has now for some years been otherwise provided for by the acquisition by the Chartered Company of independent territory bordering Gaya Bay, and by the foundation and rise of Jesselton, the time had come when this drain on the revenues of the State should cease and Imperial Government be asked again to resume direct control.—Ed., H.K.T.]

Great Britain and Germany.

Prince Buelow speaking in the Reichstag said, that correct relations between the Cabinets of any two countries should not exhaust their policies; but popular passions sometimes jeopardised Cabinet policies; for example, we have now to reckon with a deep popular aversion to us in England, and it is only recently that any tendency against this dangerous tension has been noticeable in the leading English circles. We sincerely hope that this indicates the beginning of a desire for a renewal of an unfortunately interrupted understanding.

The Triple Alliance was unimpaired, but Germany must be strong enough to hold her own without allies.

In regard to East Asia, relations with Japan were good and friendly, and he believed that the Japanese, who through bravery and intelligence had won a position among the Great Powers, were anxious to consolidate the position by a policy inspiring confidence.

The Anglo-Japanese treaty contains nothing contrary to Germany's aims, and we have striven for and desire the open door.

The greatest possible securities for peace are the maintenance of the integrity and the independence of China.

Russia.

Grave disorders have occurred in Transcaspian territory, in which the troops are participating, especially at Akabad.

Political.

It is believed that Sir Campbell-Bannerman will go to the House of Lords, leaving Mr. Asquith to lead the House of Commons.

THE HONGKONG REGATTA.

A SUCCESSFUL MEETING.

The second meeting of the Hongkong Regatta was held under the most favourable auspices, at Aberdeen, to-day.

PATRONS.—H.E. The Governor, Sir Mathew Nathan, K.C.M.G., H.E. Major-General Villiers-Hutton, C.B., Hon. Capt. L. A. Barnes Lawrence, Sir H. S. Berkeley, Kt., Hon. Sir C. P. Charter, Kt., C.M.G., Colonel Darling, R.E., A. Denison, Esq., Lt. Colonel H. G. Fitton, D.S.O., Sir F. Pigott, Kt., H. E. Pollock, Esq., K.C., E. H. Sharp, Esq., K.C., H. Skott, Esq., J. R. M. Smith, Esq., A. Turner, Esq., Commodore R. P. Williams, R.N.

Committee of Management.—Hon. Mr. Gertrude Stewart, Chairman, Lieut. C. Cooper, R.E., E. W. Mitchell, Esq., G. A. Caldwell, Esq., C. H. Grace, Esq., G. A. Gale, Esq., P. Lammer, Esq., A. H. Rouse, Esq., Hon. Treas. F. W. Warre, Esq., Hon. Sec. Umpires:—C. E. H. Beavis, Esq., C. H. Grace, Esq., W. H. Pollock, Esq., H. P. White, Esq., Lt. C. W. Beckwith, R.N.

The day was proclaimed a public holiday. At 10 a.m., three parties of sight-seers and participants in the events of the Hongkong Regatta, held at Aberdeen, left the Hongkong side simultaneously for the scene of the day's doings. The *Sun Cheung* left Wing Lok street wharf to take up her position as "flagship"; the Royal Hongkong Yacht Club launch left Blake Pier, and the Dock Company's *Kiddie*, the latter launch making a second trip at 1.30 p.m. for those who were unable to get over in the morning. After 3.30 p.m. a number of launches took over a large contingent of Hongkong residents who were unable to get away from the city early in the day. Immediately upon their arrival the interested holiday-makers joined the party on board the flagship to follow the rest of the races.

The day was somewhat cloudy, but fine, and the sea fairly smooth, so that a successful day's sport was looked forward to. Crossing over from Hongkong to the westernmost end of the island a somewhat strong breeze was encountered and the sea slightly rose; but in the shelter of the bay in front of the docks, the wind was felt but moderately, while the sea comprised within the limits of the course was comparatively smooth.

On the way over a number of launches, almost amounting to a fleet, followed in the wake of the official boat—the *C. 3*, and arrived practically in a regular line. The flagship *Sun Cheung* was moored in an advantageous position just off the docks and was "dressed" from stem to stern in her gala dress of bunting, as also were the *Andrie Rickmers* and the *Vorwarts*, two vessels now in the Aberdeen Dock undergoing overhaul. The quarters of the employees of the Dock Company were also gay with flags from the international signal code, while in a central position was a booth occupied by a refreshment stall, where edibles and drinkables were served during the day under the management of the Occidental Hotel of Kowloon. The fleet of boats added, also sporting their quota of colour, added to the gay brilliancy of the scene.

Among those present were His Excellency the Governor, accompanied by Captain Arbuthnot-Lisle, and Captain Smith, A.D.C., and Mr. R. A. B. Ponsonby, who arrived at 11.30 a.m., and brought with him the following party: Sir Francis and Lady Pigott, Hon. Gertrude Stewart, Miss Hancock and the two Misses Gave-Brown. At 12.15 p.m. Lady Noel and party arrived on the launch *Christine*, which Sir Paul Charter had placed at their disposal. Admiral Sir Gerard Noel arriving about the same time in the river torpedo boat. The Band of the Royal West Kent Regiment arrived just as the third race was being rowed. The soldiers took up a position just outside the enclosure and to the delight of the large gathering at once treated the spectators to one of the choice selections which the musicians, under the baton of Bandmaster McKelvey, know so well to render at every public function.

In order that the course might be kept as smooth as practicable instructions had been issued to launches moving about to go at no greater rate than half speed, thus obviating too much back-wash, while no boat whatever was allowed to moor in front of the flagship or the enclosure.

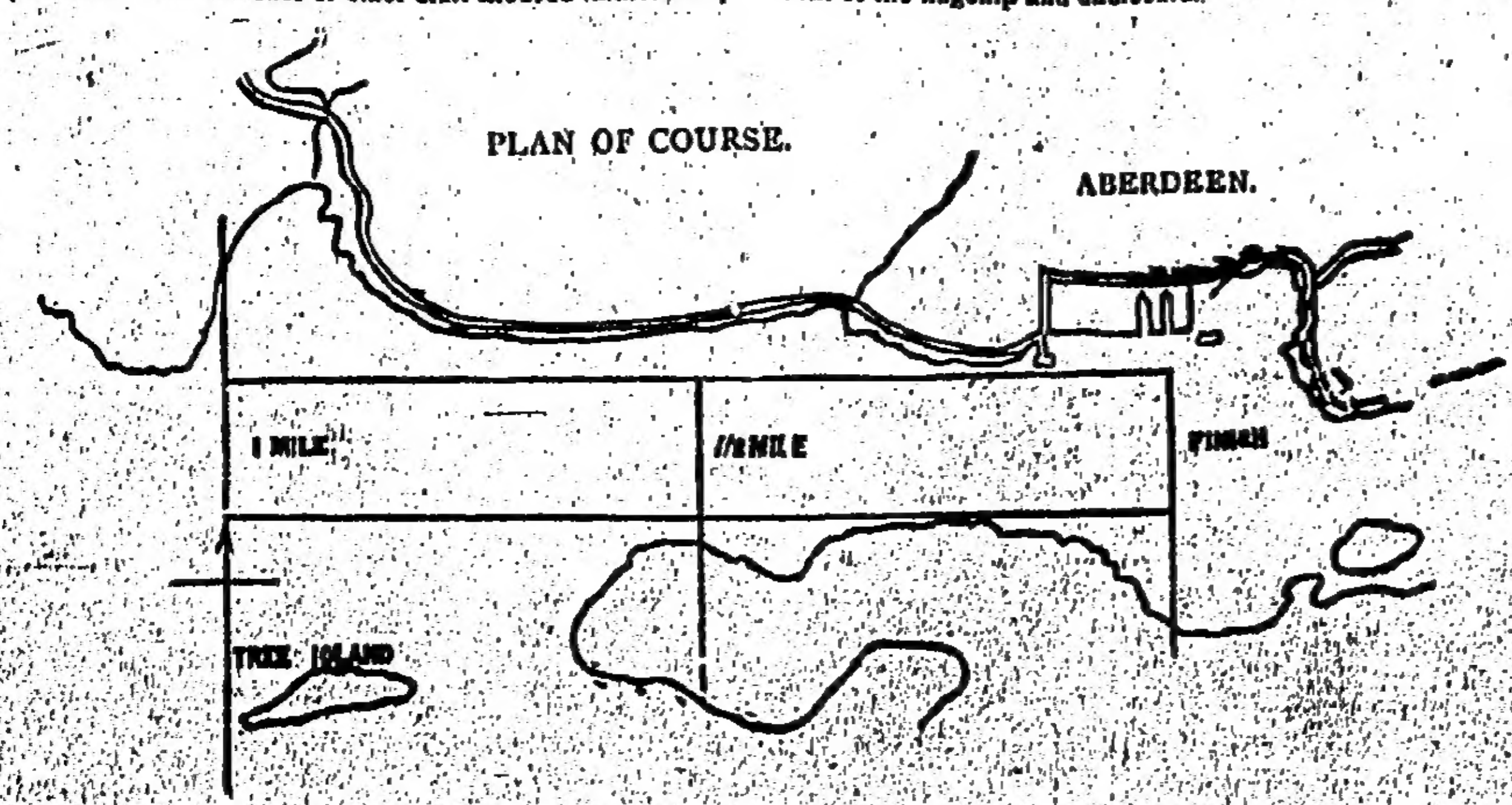
It was intended that the keynote of the proceedings should be punctuality in starting each race, the start taking place without a moment's wait for late competitors who were not on the scene at the notified time for starting. This was rendered necessary on account of the length of the programme and the early arrival of dusk at this season. There was, however, no reason for any late arrivals, inasmuch as a ship's bell clanged out unceasingly the signal "ready" for two full minutes before each event, thus giving all competitors ample time to be at the starting point in good time. But, as it happened, from one uncontrollable cause and another the first race did not start till 11.55 a.m. and was an easy win for I. A. Musso; the results of the other races being given below.

TUB SCULLS.

The first race of the day was the Tub Sculls—open to those not competing in the Stewards' Challenge Cup. Distance 1 mile. Following were the entries:—

Station No. 1.—Hongkong.—L. A. Musso, Victoria R.C. 1st 12 lbs. Colours.—Red and White.

Attached to the official programme was a plan of the course which we reproduce below. Launches when coming on to the course moved at half speed and, as stated, kept as far as possible on the Apichau side on their way to take up their positions. No launches or other craft moored immediately in front of the flagship and enclosure.



Station No. 2.—Centre.—L. Dumas, Canton R.C. 1st 11 lbs. Colours.—Blue and White.

Station No. 3.—Apichau.—L. Brown, Victoria R.C. 1st 11 lbs. Colours.—Red and White.

L. A. Musso, V.R.C. ... 1
L. Brown, R.C. ... 2
L. Dumas, Canton R.C. did not turn up.

The wind was rather "dicky" for these boats. Time 4 m. 0 1/2.

BROWN CHALLENGE CUP.
For light six-oared gigs. Open to (a) Royal Garrison Artillery, (b) Royal Engineers, (c) British Infantry Regiments, (d) Departments. Units may enter more than one crew if desired. Distance 1 mile. The entries were:—

Station No. 1.—Hongkong Royal Engineers, Bow, Sgt. F. Stokes, Supt. C. Spiller, Supt. C. O. Fisher, Supt. P. Tanner, Supt. A. Barnes, 2nd Corp. S. Murray, Supt. E. Grimsey, Cox.

Station No. 2.—Apichau and Batt. The Queen's Own Royal West Kent Regt. Bow, Pte. Rowlands, L/C. Petersen, L/C. Flinn, Pte. T. Irner, Pte. King, L/C. Barnett, Bandmaster Faulkner, Cox.

Royal Engineers ... 1
West Kentis ... 2

The Engineers had the race pretty well all their own way from the very start, and gradually increased the distance till they rowed in easy winners, having some 55 to spare. Time: 9 m. 0 1/2.

JUNIOR FOURS "B."
For heavy clinker-built boats. Open to those not competing for the Challenge Cup or Junior Fours A. Limited to residents of Hongkong. Distance 1 mile. The entries were:—

Station No. 1.—Hongkong, Victoria R.C. J. S. Alves, bow, 2. J. H. H. Hance, 3. L. A. Musso, L. Brown, Sir. Cox, R. W. Pearson. Colours.—Red and White.

Station No. 2.—Apichau. Royal Hongkong Yacht Club, W. Stewart, bow, 2. H. W. Lester, 3. J. Hanon, H. Schoenher, Sir. Cox, G. A. Caldwell. Colours.—Blue and gold.

Victoria R.C. ... 1
R. H. Yacht Club ... 2

This was not a very close race. Brown, who stroked the V. R. C. boat, had a stronger crew than his opponent and won somewhat easily by three lengths; the distance that divided his boat and Schoenher's. Time: 8 m. 17 secs.

MEN-OF-WAR GIGS AND WHALE-S.
For Service boats and Service conditions. Distance 1 mile. There were thirteen entries as follows:—

No. 1 Hongkong, H.M.S. "Dec" crew.
No. 2 Station. "Hogue's" No. 1 crew.
No. 3 "Hecia's" crew.
No. 4 "Otter's" crew.
No. 5 "Hogue's" No. 2 crew.
No. 6 "Hecia's" crew.
No. 7 "Hecia's" crew.
No. 8 Kowloon Dept.
No. 9 H.M.S. "Ettrick's"
No. 10 "Alcany's"
No. 11 "Lichen's"
No. 12 "Tamar's"
No. 13 Apichau. "Din's" crew.

The large number of boats which lined up for the race did not, unfortunately, allow of its being concluded without several fouls occurring. Twelve boats started in all. When the gun was fired they appeared to have got off well evenly together, but on nearing the winning post it was seen that some of them could not avoid fouling one another. Some did actually take place, and at the conclusion of the race protests were lodged with the Stewards who considered them in private. Later in the afternoon, the decision was announced, with the following result:—

H.M.S. Ettrick's crew ... 1
Hogue's No. 1 crew ... 2
Hogue's No. 2 crew ... 3
Lichen's crew ... 4

Time: Unascertainable; there was no judge on board.

THE ADJOURNMENT.
After the men-of-war gigs race, His Excellency the Governor, who had been watching the events from the flagship with the greatest interest and enthusiasm, with his party of guests mentioned, adjourned to His Excellency's tender *Stanley*, where he gave a luncheon party.

CHALLENGE CUP.
For Four Oars. Rowed in light clinker-built boats of 5 strokes, with coxswain. Open to crews representative of any Amateur Rowing Club. Distance 1 1/2 miles. The entries were:—

Station No. 1.—Hongkong, Canton R.C. F. G. Herb, Bow 11 0 3 C. Allen 12 2
E. E. Andrus 11 7 W. Imhoof, Str. 13 8
Cox, A. W. Purnell, Boat.

Colours.—Blue and White. Boat, Clasper, Oars, Ayling.

Station No. 2.—Apichau. Royal Hongkong Y. C. A. B. Biden, bow 10 12 3 W. O. Köhler 12 2
A. B. Ruse 11 12 F. W. Warre, Str. 12 0
Cox, G. A. Caldwell, 8th. 11b.

Colours.—Blue and gold. Boat, Leux, Oars, Ayling.

Canton R.C. ... 1
Royal H.K. Yacht Club ... 2

The race did not cause any excitement and was a comparatively easy win for the Canton visitors.

STEWARDS' CHALLENGE CUP.
For Sculls. Rowed in best boats. Distance 1 mile. The entries were:—

Station No. 1.—Hongkong.—W. Kuntzel, Canton R.C. 1st 12 lbs. Colours.—Blue and White.

THE COURSE.
Attached to the official programme was a plan of the course which we reproduce below. Launches when coming on to the course moved at half speed and, as stated, kept as far as possible on the Apichau side on their way to take up their positions. No launches or other craft moored immediately in front of the flagship and enclosure.

Station No. 1.—Apichau. W. W. Kennett, Royal Hongkong Y. C. 1st 6 lbs. Colours.—Blue and gold.

W. W. Kennett ... 1
W. W. Kennett ... 2

One of the most races of the day, exciting considerably in the spectators, it was keenly contested from start to finish, the boats racing for the entire distance almost level with each other, and when Kuntzel, of Canton, crossed the winning line, his boat was a bare three-quarters length ahead of Kennett's, so winning the Judge's verdict in his favour.

THE GOVERNOR'S CHALLENGE CUP.
For Four Oars. Limited to residents of Hongkong. Each boat's crew to be drawn from a single unit which is defined as a regiment, a ship, a corps, the Volunteers, a firm, or any other body of gentlemen working together at the same profession or calling. If any of the above units are not strong enough to provide a complete crew then any combination of two similar units may be made. A club is not included in the definition of a unit. Distance 1 mile. There were five boats entered as follows:—

Station No. 1.—Hongkong.—Royal Engineers. A. G. Ramsford, bow 10 3 A. B. Ogle 11 9
G. L. Hall 10 5 C. Cooper, Sir. 11 2
Cox, Major E. Breton Simmons, 9th. 11b.

Colours.—Red and Blue Quartered.

Station No. 2.—Messrs. Melchers and Blackhead. A. Schoenemann, bow 11 3 C. König 13 3
Bow 11 3 C. König 13 3
A. Berlingier 12 7 W. O. Köhler, Str. 12 2
Cox, G. A. Caldwell, 8th. 11b.

Colours.—Blue.

Station No. 3.—Centre.—Royal West Kent Regt. and Coldstream Guards. E. S. Ward, bow 11 4 3 M. W. Graham 12 4
Cox, Capt. F. J. Joslin, 9th. 7b.

Colours.—White.

Station No. 4.—Eastern Extension Telegraph Co. W. Pak, bow 9 0 3 J. Hanon 13 2
P. C. Murray 11 11 C. H. Mackay 10 5
Cox, J. O. Hughes, 1st. 21b.

Colours.—Yellow, Green and Chocolate.

Station No. 5.—Apichau. Hongkong Volunteer Corps. J. H. Hance, bow 10 8 J. H. Lester 12 8
C. E. Hance 11 10 J. W. Wittich 12 7
Cox, H. W. Kennett, 9th. 61b.

Colours.—Yellow, Red and Black.

Royal Engineers ... 1
Royal West Kent Regt. and Gold ... 2
Steam Guards ... 3
Hongkong Volunteer Corps ... 4

Following on the previous race the event of the day when the Governor's Challenge Cup brought out the best of Hongkong's oarsmen in competition for honours, saw a very closely contested and exciting race which resulted, as above. The other contestants were nowhere in the race. The finish was a very close one.

MEN-OF-WAR CUTTERS.
Service boats: service conditions. Distance 1 mile.
H.M.S. *Andromeda's* No. 2 Crew ... 1
Hogue's crew ... 2
H.M.S. *Tamar's* crew was not placed.

JUNIOR FOURS A.
Rowed in heavy clinker-built boats. Open to those not competing for the Challenge Cup or Junior Fours B. Distance 1 mile.
Canton Rowing Club ... 1
Royal H.K. Yacht Club ... 2
V. R. C. ... 3

Colours.—Blue and White.

OFFICERS' GIGS AND WHALE-S.
H.M.S. *Sully's* ... 1
Hogue ... 2
H.M.S. *Andromeda's* ... 3

LADIES' PRIZE.
For Pair Oars, clinker-built, with coxswain. Open to pairs representative of any Amateur Rowing Club. Distance 1 mile.
Canton Rowing Club ... 1
V. R. C. ... 2
Royal H. K. Yacht Club ... 3

THE BAND.
In the course of the day the pleasure of the proceedings to the contestants as well as to the spectators was considerably enhanced by the following programme of music, most efficiently discoursed by the Band of the 2nd Batt. Queen's Own Royal West Kent Regiment, under Bandmaster T. McKelvey, by kind permission of Lieut. C. Fittos, D.S.O., and Officers.

1. March "The Captain" ... Sousa
2. Overture to "Mirella" ... Grand
3. Value "The American Tense" ... Gungl
4. Selection from "The Orchestral" ... Gungl
5. Intermezzo Two-step "Annona" ... Grey
6. Selection from "The Mountain Gnomes" ... arr. D. Godfrey
7. March "The Mountain Gnomes" ... Ellenberg
8. Selection from "Three Little Maids" ... Ruben
9. Selection from "The Mountain Gnomes" ... arr. D. Godfrey
10. Oriental Scene "A Dervish Chorus" ... Selsk

PREVIOUS WINNERS.
We append below a list of winners of the Hongkong Regatta held on February 11th last:—

Interpret Fours ... Canton.
Men-of-War Gigs & Whalers ... H.M.S. *Gloria's* Gigs.

Men-of-War Cutters ... H.M.S. *Hogue's* Cutter.
The Governor's Challenge Cup ... Garrison Crew.
Interpret Pairs ... Hongkong.
Officers' Gigs, Whalers ... H.M.S. *Sully's*.
Tub Sculls ... W. Imhoof, Canton R.C.

SHIPPING PROSPECTS.

The following interesting notes are taken from the "Norwegian Shipping in the Far East," compiled by Mr. Bjørn Aagaard, Norwegian Consul at Hongkong.

We are afraid that the splendid results acquired by owners who had boats on the spot when rates rose by leaps and bounds at the time the war broke out and who made easy money during the war, have induced too many owners to send old steamers, unsuitable for the coast, out to the East, the natural consequence of this, coupled with the present fall after a long time of activity, being that the market in the South is glutted with tonnage.

The good reports from the home market will do doubt be the means of again absorbing some of the superfluous tonnage. However, the expenses pertaining to the return of the steamers to Europe will be felt most seriously by owners having such, of small tonnage, and the bulk of the Norwegian fleet out here consists of vessels of this class. So far, the only small boat returning to Europe is the *Defiance* which was fixed from Bangkok.

A slump in the freight market is prophesied by many experienced shipping men, while others maintain that the trade next spring will rather increase than drop. We are not of the opinion that any retrograde movement will assume gigantic dimensions, as the Siberian and Sakhalin trades again will be opened in the spring, and other trades already have sprung up and new are sure to follow.

Anyway even if we are to experience a temporary depression of serious character, the Eastern trade taken in their entirety are bound to flourish and increase as a direct consequence of the practically unlimited demand, possibility of China and Japan and owing to the interest which the war has kindled in exporting, importing and mercantile circles in the United States and Europe. There can be no doubt that Asia is the land of the future and the advent of the mammoth steamers now trading between the West coast of America, Japan and China has brought us yet nearer to a realisation of the dreams of the Pacific as the Mediterranean of the modern peoples.

May our owners at home, by patience and perseverance now as in the past show that they follow their time and in concord continue to work for the expansion of Norwegian trade and shipping in the Far East.

Thanking all of you for the support you have been kind enough to extend, and for the trust which so many of you have shown us, and wishing you all a prosperous New Year.

JUDGMENT in a case of considerable local interest has just been given in Saigon, says the *Korea Daily News*. It appears that Messrs. Rondon Plaisant & Co. obtained from the Korean government the monopoly of the gin-seng export for two years and subsequently made an agreement on this basis with Messrs. Chazalon of Shanghai. As, however, the Korean government repudiated the contract in the second year Messrs Rondon Plaisant & Co. were unable to fulfil their obligations and Messrs. Chazalon consequently withheld payment of a sum of Y200,000 due on the first year's business. The Shanghai Court originally decided in favour of Messrs. Chazalon, but an appeal to the Saigon Supreme Courts has resulted in a reversal of the verdict on all points.

To-day's Advertisements.

VICTORIA AMATEUR DRAMATIC CLUB.

THE Members of the above Club will give their first performance in the Theatre of St. Patrick's Club, Garden Road (near the Tram Station).

TO-NIGHT.

December 9th, 1905.
When Housicault's Famous Irish Drama in Three Acts,
"THE S'AUCHRAUN"
will be presented.

The Play will also be given
ON
MONDAY 11th, TUESDAY 12th,
SATURDAY 16th December, 1905.

Doors open at 8 P.M. Commence at 8.30 P.M.
sharp. Chairs may be excerpted for
11.30 P.M.

PRICES:
Reserved Seats, 2s; Unreserved 5s.
Soldiers and Sailors in uniform, half price.
Seats may be booked at the ROBINSON PIANO CO., LD., where plan is on view.
Hongkong, 9th December, 1905. 11194

THE HONGKONG FROZEN FOOD SUPPLY.

REDUCTION IN PRICES.
CUSTOMERS are requested to note the following REDUCTION IN PRICES:—

AUSTRALIAN SMOKED MULLET \$0.50 per lb.
AUSTRALIAN SMOKED SCHNAPPER 0.50 " "
AUSTRALIAN OYSTERS, 2 1/2 doz. Bottles 1.00 " bot.
AUSTRALIAN OYSTERS, 5 doz. Bottles 1.90 " "
Hongkong, 9th December, 1905. 149

THE SISTERS OF THE FRENCH CONVENT
BEG TO ANNOUNCE THAT THE
ANNUAL BAZAAR AND SALE OF WORK
will be held in the Convent, Praya East,
from
MONDAY, December 11th, to
SATURDAY, December 16th.

Electric Trams pass the door of the Convent. The Articles for sale will include Beautiful Hand embroidered Blouses, some Fine Laces, etc., etc., and French Dolls.
The Public are earnestly asked to kindly attend and support the Bazaar.
Hongkong, 9th December, 1905. 11281

Intimations.

THE ROBINSON PIANO CO., LD.

SPECIAL

2 COLLARD

DRAWING-ROOM

GRANDS

HALF-PRICE (to close a/o).

5 RACHALS' PIANOS

\$550, formerly \$600.

APOLLO PIANOLAS

\$290. Rolls 20% off.

JUST UNPACKED

IN NEW STORE,

BECHSTEIN, STEINWAY, KRAUSS, HAAKE, RACHALS, WERNER.

A STOCK UNEQUALLED IN THE COLONY.

HIRE OR CREDIT.

Hongkong, 6th December, 1905. 1521



Trade

Mark

TELEPHONE No. 135.

CHAMPAGNES.

MOET & CHANDON

"Dry Imperial"

Per Case 1 doz. Bottles \$57.00
" " " " " 60.00

MOET & CHANDON

"White Star"

Per Case 1 Doz. Bottles \$41.00
" " " " " 44.00

MOET & CHANDON

Shipping—Steamers.

OCEAN STEAMSHIP CO., LD.
AND
CHINA MUTUAL STEAM NAV. CO., LD.

JOINT SERVICES.

FORTNIGHTLY SAILINGS FOR LONDON AND CONTINENT.
MONTHLY SAILINGS FOR LIVERPOOL.TAKING CARGO ON THROUGH BILLS OF LADING FOR ALL EUROPEAN,
NORTH AND SOUTH AMERICAN, WEST AUSTRALIAN, JAVA
AND SUMATRA PORTS.

EUROPEAN SERVICE.

OUTWARD.

FROM	STEAMERS	DUE
GLASGOW and LIVERPOOL	"STENTOR"	13th December.
GLASGOW and LIVERPOOL	"KANCHOW"	20th "
GLASGOW and LIVERPOOL	"TELEMACHUS"	27th "
GLASGOW and LIVERPOOL	"PYRRHUS"	3rd January.
GLASGOW and LIVERPOOL	"PAK LING"	10th "
GLASGOW and LIVERPOOL	"SAINT BEDE"	17th "
GLASGOW and LIVERPOOL	"PATROCLUS"	24th "

S.S. "Stentor" left Liverpool at 5 p.m. on the 7th inst., and is due here on the 13th.

HOMEWARD.

FOR	STEAMERS	TO SAIL
AMSTERDAM, LONDON & ANTWERP	"HECTOR"	19th December.
GENOA, MARSEILLES & L'POOL	"GLAUCUS"	26th "
AMSTERDAM, LONDON & ANTWERP	"TYDEUS"	2nd January.
AMSTERDAM, LONDON & ANTWERP	"IDOMENEUS"	9th "

*Taking Cargo for Liverpool at London Rates.

TRANS-PACIFIC SERVICE.

OPERATING IN CONJUNCTION WITH

THE NORTHERN PACIFIC RAILWAY CO.

AND TAKING CARGO ON THROUGH BILLS OF LADING TO ALL
OVERLAND COMMON-POINTS IN THE UNITED STATES
OF AMERICA AND CANADA.

EASTWARD.

FOR	STEAMERS	TO SAIL
VICTORIA, SEATTLE, TACOMA, and	"TELEMACHUS"	1st January.
all PACIFIC COAST PORTS, via		
NAGASAKI, KOBE and YOKOHAMA	"NINGCHOW"	1st February.

WESTWARD.

FROM	STEAMERS	DUE
TACOMA, SEATTLE, VICTORIA and	"TYDEUS"	26th December.
PACIFIC COAST	"PING SUEY"	26th January.

For Freight, apply to

BUTTERFIELD & SWIRE,

AGENTS.

Hongkong, 9th December, 1905.

CHINA NAVIGATION CO., LIMITED.

FOR	STEAMERS	TO SAIL
SHANGHAI	"FOOCHOW"	11th December.
MANILA	"TAMING"	12th "
CEBU and ILOILO	"KAIPONG"	22nd "
MANILA, ZAMBOANGA, PORT DARWIN, THURSDAY ISLAND, COOKTOWN, CAIRNS, TOWNS- VILLE, SYDNEY and MELBOURNE	"CHANGSHA"	27th "

* Taking Cargo on through Bills of Lading to all Yangtze and Northern China Ports.

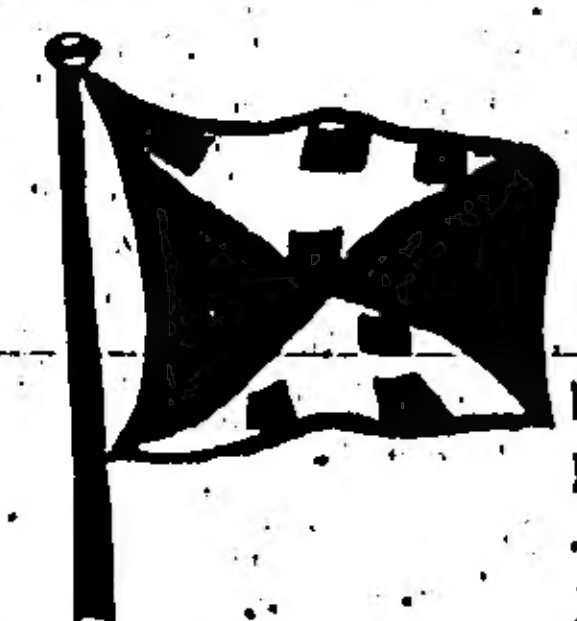
* The Attention of Passengers is directed to the Superior Accommodation offered by these
steamers, which are fitted throughout with Electric Light. Unrivalled table. A duly
qualified Surgeon is carried.* Taking Cargo and Passengers at through Rates for all New Zealand and other Australian
Ports.

For Freight or Passage, apply to

BUTTERFIELD & SWIRE,

AGENTS.

Hongkong, 8th December, 1905.



HONGKONG—MANILA.

Highest Class, newest, fastest and most luxurious Steamers
between Hongkong and Manila—Saloon midships—Electric
Light—Perfect Cuisine—Surgeon and Stewardess carried.
—All the most up-to-date arrangements for comfort of
Passengers.CHINA AND MANILA
STEAMSHIP COMPANY, LIMITED.

Steamship.	Tons.	Captain.	For	Sailing Dates.
ZAFIRO	2540	R. Rodger	MANILA	SATURDAY, 16th Dec.
RUBI	2540	R. Almond	"	SATURDAY, 23rd Dec.

For Freight or Passage, apply to

SHEWAN, TOMES & CO.,

GENERAL MANAGERS.

Hongkong, 9th December, 1905.



HONGKONG—NEW YORK.

AMERICAN ASIATIC
STEAMSHIP CO.

FOR NEW YORK via PORTS AND SUEZ CANAL.

(With Liberty to Call at the Malabar Coast).

Steamship	About
"INDRANI"	FRIDAY, 15th December.

For Freight and further information, apply to

SHEWAN, TOMES & CO.,

General Agents.

Hongkong, 23rd October, 1905.

BOO CHEONG,

STATIONER AND PAPER MERCHANT,
No. 20, Fanning Street.HAS always on hand all varieties of
Stationery, Printing and Note Papers,
Copying Presses, also Automatic Cyclostyle
and Elms Duplicate.

Hongkong, 23rd February, 1905.

NOT RESPONSIBLE FOR DEBTS.

NEITHER THE CAPTAIN, the AGENTS, nor
the OWNERS will be RESPONSIBLE
for any DEBTS contracted by the Officers or
the Crews of the following vessel during her
stay in Hongkong Harbour—
CELTIC CHIEF, British ship, Captain John
Jones—Standard Oil Co.

Shipping—Steamers.

HONGKONG—MACAO LINE.

S.S. "WING CHAI"

Captain T. AUSTIN, R.N.

THIS Steamer departs from Hongkong on
Week Days, at 8 A.M. and on Sundays
at 6.30 A.M. Departs from Macao on Week
Days at 2.30 P.M. and on Sundays at 5.30 P.M.,
if tide permits.FARES—Week Days: 1st Class, including
Cabin and servant, Single 3s; Return Ticket,
5s; 2nd Class, 2s; 3rd Class, 1s 6d.
Every Sunday will be an Excursion, at the
following rates: 1st and 2nd Class, Single
Ticket, 1s; Return, 2s; 3rd Class, Single, 6d.
Return, 1s 6d; 3rd Class, 1s 6d.
Breakfast, Tiffin and Dinner can be supplied
either on Board, or at the Macao Hotel, for
returning passengers only, at an extra charge
of 2s.On Sundays, passengers desiring to have a
Private Cabin which has accommodation for
two or more passengers, will be charged 3s
extra.First Class Passengers, who do not care to
return on the Excursion-Sunday, will be allowed
to do so the following day (Monday) on pro-
duction of the Return Half Ticket. Should
the Steamer not run on the Monday, owing to
the Boiler cleaning, due notice will be given
by the Captain, and the Half Ticket will be
available for the following day.
The Steamer is lit throughout by Electricity.
The Steamer's wharf at Hongkong is at the
Western end of Wing Lok Street.

MING ON & Co.,

2nd Floor, No. 16, Victoria Street.

Hongkong, 9th October, 1905.

STEAM TO CANTON.

THE New Twin Screw Steel Steamers

Tons Captain

"KWONG CHOW" 1,309 T. R. MEAD.
"KWONG TUNG" 1,338 H. W. WALKER.
Leave Hongkong for Canton at 9 every
evening (Saturday excepted).Leave Canton for Hongkong about 5.30
o'clock every evening (Sunday excepted).
These Fine New Steamers have unexcelled
Accommodation for First Class Passengers and
are lit throughout by Electricity. Electric Fans
in First Class Cabins.Passage Fare—Single Journey ...\$4
Meals ...\$1 each.
The Company's Wharf is a short distance
West of the Harbour Master's Office.SHIU ON S.S. CO., LD., and
YUEN ON S.S. CO., LD.,
No. 8, Queen's Road West.

Hongkong, 23rd August, 1905.

[17]

NORTHERN PACIFIC LINE.

BOSTON STEAMSHIP COMPANY.

BOSTON TOW-BOAT COMPANY.

Connecting at Tacoma with

NORTHERN PACIFIC RAILWAY

COMPANY.

PROPOSED SAILINGS FROM HONGKONG FOR

VICTORIA, B.C. AND TACOMA.

VIA

MOJI, KOBE AND YOKOHAMA.

Steamer.	Tons.	Captain.	Sailing.
Lynn	4,117	G. V. Williams	27th Dec.
Platania	3,753	F. G. Purington	to follow.
Shawmut	9,600	E. V. Roberts	to follow.
Lyadot	3,753	Geo. Wright	to follow.
Tremont	9,600	T. W. Garlick	to follow.

* Cargo only.

CHAP FARES, EXCELLENT ACCOMMODATION,

ATTENDANCE AND CUISINE, ELECTRIC

LIGHT, DOCTOR AND STEWARDESS.

The twin-screw s.s. Shawmut and Tremont
are fitted with very superior accommodation
for first and second class passengers. The
large size of these vessels ensures steadiness
at sea. Electric fan in each room.
Barber's shop and steam-laundry. Cargo
carried in cold storage.

For further information, apply to

DODWELL & CO., LIMITED

General Agents.

Queen's Buildings.

Hongkong, 9th December, 1905.

[8]

REGULAR STEAMSHIP SERVICE

TO NEW YORK,

VIA PORTS AND SUEZ CANAL,

(With Liberty to Call at Malabar Coast).

PROPOSED SAILINGS FROM HONGKONG.

Steamship About

"GHAEZEE" 11th December.

"LOTHIAN" 14th December.

"ATHOLL" 3rd January.

For Freight and further information, apply

DODWELL & CO., LIMITED,

Agents.

Hongkong, 9th December, 1905.

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INDO-CHINA STEAM NAVIGATION CO., LD.

(PROJECTED SAILINGS FROM HONGKONG.—SUBJECT TO ALTERATION).

For Steamship On

SHANGHAI VIA SWATOW.....WOSANG.....TUESDAY, 12th Dec., Daylight.

SINGAPORE, PENANG & CALCUTTA.....KUMSANG.....TUESDAY, 12th Dec., 3 P.M.

SHANGHAI.....TINGSANG.....TUESDAY, 12th Dec., 3 P.M.

MANILA.....LOONGSANG.....FRIDAY, 15th Dec., 4 P.M.

* Taking Cargo on through Bills of Lading to Chefoo and Yangtze Ports.

* These Steamers have superior accommodation for First-class Passengers, and are fitted
throughout with Electric Light.

For Freight or Passage, apply to

JARDINE, MATHESON & CO.,

General Managers.

Hongkong, 9th December, 1905.

[460]

PORTLAND & ASIATIC STEAMSHIP CO.

PROPOSED SAILINGS FROM HONGKONG, VIA SHANGHAI, INLAND
SEA OF JAPAN, MOJI, KOBE AND YOKOHAMA,

PORTLAND, OREGON,

OPERATING IN CONNECTION WITH

THE OREGON RAILROAD AND NAVIGAT ON COMPANY.

Steamship	Tons	Captain	To Sail at Daylight on
"ARAGONIA"	5,190	Ernst	December 19th.
"NICOMEDIA"	4,370	Wagemann	December 22nd.
"RUMANTIA"	4,370	Feldman	January 7th, 1906.
"ARABIA"	4,483	Motzenbach	January 31st.

The S.S. "Aragonia" left Moji on the 8th inst., and is due to arrive here on the evening of
the 13th or morning of the 14th.The S.S. "Nicomedia" left Astoria on the 14th ult., and is due to arrive here on or about
the 14th inst.Through Bills of Lading issued to Pacific Coast Ports and all Eastern, Canadian and
United States Ports. For through rates of Freight and further information, communicate
with or apply to

S. SILVERSTONE, Acting General Agent.

[12]

"BEN" LINE OF STEAMERS.

FOR MARSEILLES AND LONDON.

THE Steamship

"BENLOMOND,"

Captain Henderson, will be despatched as above,
on or about the 23rd inst.

For Freight or Passage, apply to

GIBB, LIVINGSTON & Co.,

Agents.

Hongkong, 4th December, 1905.

[1192]

EASTERN AND AUSTRALIAN STEAM-
SHIP COMPANY, LIMITED.

FOR SYDNEY AND MELBOURNE,

(Calling at Manila, Port Darwin and
Queensland Ports, and taking through Cargo to
Adelaide, New Zealand, Tasmania, &c.)

THE Steamship

"AUSTRALIAN,"

Captain W. G. McArthur, will be despatched for
the above Ports, on WEDNESDAY, the 27th
inst., at Noon.This well-known Steamer is specially fitted
for Passengers, and has a Refrigerating Cham-
ber, which ensures the supply of Fresh Provi-
sions, Ice, etc., throughout the voyage.This Steamer is installed throughout with
the Electric Light.A Stewardess and a duly qualified Surgeon
are carried.N.B.—To assure the additional comfort of
passengers the steamers of the Company have
electric fans fitted in all rooms.

For Freight or Passage, apply to

GIBB, LIVINGSTON & Co.,

Agents.

Hongkong, 4th December, 1905.

[1189]

THE AMERICAN & ORIENTAL LINE.

FOR NEW YORK AND BOSTON.

(With Liberty to Call at the Malabar Coast).

THE Steamship

"COULSDON,"

Captain Henry, will be despatched for the
above Ports, on or about TUESDAY, the 2nd
January, 1906.

For Freight, apply to

ARNHOLD, KARBERG & Co.,

Agents.

Hongkong, 8th December, 1905.

[1217]

FOR SAN FRANCISCO.

THE Steamship

"DAKOTAH,"

Captain Rose, will be despatched for the above
Port, on or about TUESDAY, the 16th January,
1906.

For Freight and further particulars, apply to

SHEWAN, TOMES & Co.,

Agents.

Hongkong, 21st November, 1905.

[1244]

Shipping—Steamers.

FOR NAGASAKI AND WLADIVOSTOK.

THE Steamship

"TUNGUS,"

Captain Halversen, will be despatched for the
above Ports, on TUESDAY, the 12th inst., at
12 Noon, instead of as previously advertised.
The steamer has Splendid Accommodation
for Passengers.

HAMBURG-AMERIKA LINIE,

Hongkong Office.

Hongkong, 8th December, 1905.

[1174]

COMPAGNIE DES MESSEGERIES

MARITIMES.

PAQUEBOTS-POSTE FRANCAIS.

FOR SHANGHAI, KOBE AND

YOKOHAMA.

THE Company's Steamship

"ERNEST SIMONS,"

Captain Bourdon, will be despatched as above,
on or about TUESDAY, the 12th inst.

For Freight or Passage, apply to

G. DE CHAMPEAUX,

Agent.

Hongkong, 5th December, 1905.

[17]

NAVIGAZIONE GENERALE ITALIANA,

(Florida and Rubattino United Companies).

STEAM FOR

BOMBAY VIA SINGAPORE AND

PENANG.

Having connection with Company's Mail

Steamers to ADEN, SUEZ, PORT SAID,

MESSINA, NAPLES, LEGHORN,

and GENOA, also

VENICE and TRIESTE, all MEDITER-

RANEAN, ADRIATIC, LEVANTINE,

and SOUTH AMERICAN PORTS

up to CALLAO.

(Taking Cargo at through Rates to PERSIAN

GULF and BAGDAD, also BARCE-

LONA, VALENCIA, ALICANTE,

ALMERIA and MALAGA).

THE Steamship

"CAPRI,"

Captain Belsito, will be despatched as above,
on WEDNESDAY, the 13th inst., at Noon.

At BOMBAY, the Steamer is discharging in

VICTORIA DOCK.

For further Particulars regarding Freight

and Passage, apply to

CARLOWITZ & Co.,

Agents.

Hongkong, 8th December, 1905.

[1222]

Consignees.

INDO-CHINA STEAM NAVIGATION

COMPANY, LIMITED.

FROM CALCUTTA, PENANG AND

SINGAPORE.

THE Company's Steamship

"LAISANG"

having arrived from the above Ports, Consignees

of Cargo by her are hereby informed that their

Goods will be delivered from alongside.

Consignees are required to sign a General

Average Agreement before their Bills of

Lading can be countersigned for delivery.

THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO

Post Office


Two time wasted by citizens, must amount to many hundreds of thousands sterling every year.—*Ex.*

Singapore 30th Nov. Gen. — C. & Co

Platanus Argentea (Swartz.)

1977-1980 **nominal: Sir Gerard**

J. Noel, Commander in Chief



Arrivals

[illegible]

7 F1725/1726 Admiral Sir Gerard U. Ross, Commander-in-Chief,

